

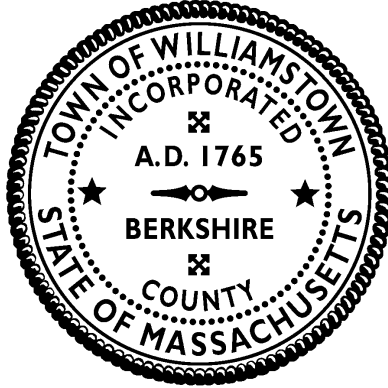
TOWN OF WILLIAMSTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS



ANNUAL REPORT
-2015-

In memory of our friend, Richard L. DeMayo
1937 - 2015

TOWN OF WILLIAMSTOWN MASSACHUSETTS



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Department reports are for the calendar year 2015 unless otherwise noted
Financial report covers the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015

Prepared by Sarah Hurlbut, Debra Turnbull
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COMMUNITY FACTS



Williamstown began in 1750 as a plantation known as West Hoosac. Lots were laid out and the town was slowly settled until the beginning of the French and Indian War in 1754. In 1765 the town was incorporated as Williamstown according to the will of Col. Ephraim Williams, who was killed at the Battle of Lake George in 1755. He bequeathed a significant sum to the town on the condition that it were named after him and started a free school. The school opened in October of 1791 with 15 students. The free school became Williams College in 1793 under a charter from the Commonwealth, becoming the only second college, following Harvard, to be founded in Massachusetts.

Elevation: 740 ft. above Sea Level

Area: 46.86 Square Miles

Population: 7806 which includes approximately 2,000 Williams College Student Body

Registered Voters: 4338

Town Website: www.williamstown.net

SCHOOLS

Public

Williamstown Elementary School
Mt. Greylock Regional High School
Charles H. McCann Vocational School
(Grades 9-12 North Adams)
Berkshire Arts and Technologies Charter School
(Grades 6-12 Adams)

Private

Pine Cobble (preK-9)
Buxton (Secondary)
Williams College

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

Williams College
Williamstown Commons
Williamstown Medical Associates
Town of Williamstown
Mount Greylock Regional School District

Sweet Brook Nursing Care Centers
Clark Art Institute
Williamstown Savings Bank
Williams Inn



COVER STORY

Richard DeMayo 1937 – 2015, A Pillar of the Community



A community is only as strong as its most caring and committed citizens and Dick DeMayo was exactly that, a man who cared deeply about civic service and about making his community the best place it could possibly be. A presence in the civic life of Williamstown for nearly 50 years, Dick served as an associate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals as early as 1968 to 1970. He served on the Board of Selectman from 1987 to 1992, Planning Board from 1997 to 2013, the Conservation Commission from 1981 to 1986, the Master Plan Steering Committee from 2000 to 2002, the Economic Development Committee from 1990 to 2000, and on the Housing Partnership from 1987 to 1988, Real Property Reuse Committee from 2001 to 2007 and Capital Improvement Committees from 1999 to 2003. Dick also served on the Community Preservation Committee from 2006 to 2008. He was a current member

of the Affordable Housing Trust serving from 2012 till his death on December 9, 2015. The Affordable Housing Trust has recently decided to honor Dick by dedicating their mortgage assistance program for first time home buyers in his name. All future mortgage assistance grants will be known as the Richard L. DeMayo Mortgage Assistance Grants.

Born in Williamstown on Sept. 10, 1937, a son of Louis and Jessie Maino DeMayo, he graduated from the former Williamstown High School with the class of 1955. An Air Force veteran, he served during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Mr. DeMayo was owner and operator of DeMayo Electric Co. for many years and operated Bonnie Lea Farm with his family. Introducing generations of children to horseback riding, Mr. D was beloved by the many that passed through his farm.

Dick led a dedicated life. He was dedicated to his family, his church, his community and his fellow man. He was an active leader for Williamstown. He was a trustee for the former Williamstown Savings Bank and was a loyal communicant of the Parish of Saints Patrick & Raphael, serving on various committees over the years and being a Eucharistic minister and usher. He was also a past trustee of the Big E and was active for many years on the Trustees of Reservation. Dick had an uncanny ability to engage you in such a way that you wanted to do your best for him. He always showed appreciation for any individual's efforts and had the community's best interests at heart. It isn't often that an individual like Dick comes along, even rarer when that person chooses to dedicate their life to a place and ensure that it is a stronger and more fulfilling place once they have left. Dick was grateful for Williamstown and cared deeply about it. We believe Williamstown can say that same of Mr. D. From all of us in the Municipal Building who had the pleasure of knowing and working with Dick, thank you. Thank you for everything you did for this community, Williamstown won't be the same without you.

An Appreciation, from Ruth Harrison



There are people who light up a room with their smile. Dick DeMayo was one. Sitting in a meeting at Town Hall, driving his tractor, riding one of his favorite horses, the smile was there. And he did sit at an extraordinary numbers of meetings, as a Selectman, a member of the Planning Board, The Affordable Housing Trust and so many others during his years and years of service to the Town. The depth of his knowledge of Williamstown was astounding. That knowledge and his expertise in so many areas were invaluable- to the town and to his fellow committee members. He was a mentor to new members of all those committees, sharing his wisdom and making all welcome. Committee meetings can run

late into the evening and require work beyond meeting time. Often after those meetings Dick returned to his much loved Bonnie Lea Farm to help finish those never ending farm chores. Dick approached all his "chores" with such ease and grace.

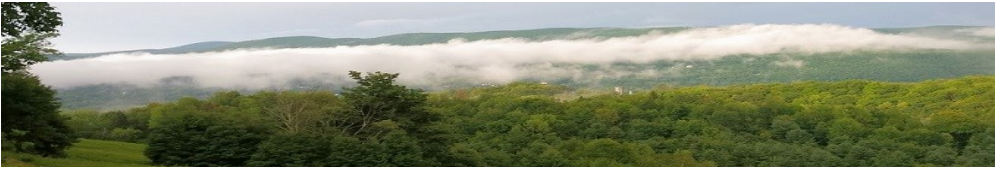
Dick knew the ins and outs of Williamstown and he knew the people that lived here. He gave his time to all those committees because in the end the people would benefit. He had an amazing way of deliberating within the guidelines of a committee while never losing sight of who might be affected by the outcome. Empathy was not just a word to Dick.

Dick did take some time to play. The time most precious was that spent with his wonderful family. His smile was brightest when he was with them.

It is difficult to think that Dick will no longer be at Town Meeting or sitting at the table in Town Hall or riding his horses on the trails of Woodstock, VT.

Rest peacefully, Dick DeMayo.

CURRENT TOWN OFFICIALS



ELECTED OFFICIALS

SELECTMEN

Jane Patton, Chair	2016	Ronald Turbin	2016
Andy Hogeland	2017	Hugh Daley	2017
Anne O'Connor	2018		

MODERATOR

Adam Filson	2016
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LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Mark Maniac	2016	Charles Boneti	2016
Rebecca Ohm, Chair	2016	Katherine Myers	2016
Peter Mehlin	2016	Bridget Spann	2016
Karen Kowitz	2017	Kathleen Schultz	2017

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Daniel Caplinger	2016	Richard Reynolds	2016
John Skavlem	2017	Joseph Johnson	2018
Catherine Keating	2018		

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Mark Reinhardt, Chair	2016	David Mangun	2017
Peter Mehlin	2016	Judith Bombardier	2020

**NORTHERN BERKSHIRE VOCATIONAL REGIONAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

James Gazzaniga	2016	Thomas Mahar	2018
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MT. GREYLOCK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Steven Miller	2016	Gary Fuls	2016
Sheila Herbert	2016	Christopher Dodig	2018
Wendy Penner	2018	Richard Cohen	2018
Carrie Greene, Chair	2018		

PLANNING BOARD

Sarah Gardner	2016	Elizabeth McGowan	2016
Chris Winters	2017	Ann McCallum	2020
Amy Jeschawitz, Chair	2019	Susan Schneski, Associate	2016



APPOINTED BY THE MODERATOR

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Elaine Neely	2016	Elizabeth Goodman	2016
Susan Clark	2016	Dan Gendron	2017
Suzanne Dewey	2017	Charles Fox	2018
Doris Karampatsos	2017	Paula Consolini	2018
Michael Sussman, Chair	2018		

APPOINTED BY THE SELECTMEN

AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE

Leigh Short	2016	Van Ellet, Chair	2016
Alison O'Grady	2016	Vivienne Jaffe	2016

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST BOARD

Thomas E. Sheldon, Chair	2017	Van Ellet	2016
Stanley Parese	2016	Ruth Harrison	2016
Anne O'Connor	2016		

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Beth Phelps, Chair	Kim Wells
Richard Haley	Andrew Bernardy
Bill Galusha	Sarah Gardner, Alt.
Christopher Sabot, Alt.	Leslie Reed Evans, Alt.

CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Vacancy (3)

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE: Town Resident

Jeffrey Thomas 2017

Other Representatives Designated by their Committees:

Philip McKnight (Conservation Commission), Chair
Patricia Leach (Historical Commission)
Chris Winters (Planning Board)
Michael Sussman (Finance Committee)
Jane Patton (Parks Commissioner)
Jason Hoch (Town Manager)
Mark Reinhardt (Housing Authority)

CONSTABLES**Andrew Bernardy****2017****Paul Yarter****2017****CULTURAL COUNCIL of NORTHERN BERKSHIRE**

Jane Hudson

2016

Holly Edwards

2018

FENCE VIEWERS

Richard Ally

2016

HOOSAC WATER QUALITY DISTRICT

Elaine Neely

2016

Don Clark

2019

MOBILE HOME RENT CONTROL BOARD

Jack Nogueira, Chair

2016

John Luczynski

2016

David Levine

2017

MT. GREYLOCK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Cosmo Catalano, State Appointed

Scott Lewis

MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Douglas Dias

2016

Peter Beck

2016

Cheryl Yarter

2017

Kris Kirby

2017

Jeanne DiLisio

2017

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING COMMITTEE

Jane Patton, Chair

John Notesley

Scott McGowan

Ann McCallum

Charles Fox

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Mary C. Kennedy (D)

Town Clerk

Kurt Gabel (R)

2016

Mark Windover (D)

2017

Robert A. Jones (R)

2016

SIGN COMMISSION

Anne Singleton

2016

Tim Hamilton, Chair

2017

Stuart Armet

2018

Lindsay Neathawk

2019

Kathy Thompson

2019

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Tim Kaiser

2016

SPRUCES LAND USE COMMITTEE

Tom Hyde

Jack Madden

Libby Bartels

Andy Hogeland

Nicholas Wright

Dick Schlesinger

Leslie Reed-Evans

Lisa DeMayo

BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Brian O’Grady 2016 (appointed by the Board of Selectmen Chair)

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Ryan Neathawk	2016	Andrew Hoar, Chair	2017
David Levine	2018	Leigh Short	2020
John Holden	2019	Lawrence Wright, Assoc.	2018
Jack Noguerira, Assoc.	2017	Keith Davis, Assoc	2019



APPOINTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER

1753 HOUSE COMMITTEE

Andrus Burr	2016	Sarah Currie	2016
Marilyn Faulkner	2017	Henry Art	2017
Lauren Stevens	2018	David Loomis	2018
Keith Davis	2018		

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER AND INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

Kyle Johnson

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

David Westall	William Barkin, Chair	Thomas Elder
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BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Amy Jeschawitz, Appointed by Planning Board	2019
Roger Bolton, Alternate	2016

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Nicholas Wright	2016	Thomas V Ellet	2016
Richard Schlesinger	2017	Philip McKnight, Chair	2017
Sarah Foehl	2017	Bob Hatton	2018
Hank Art	2018	Stephanie Boyd	2018

COUNCIL ON AGING

Anne Jones	2016	Brian T. O’Grady, Director	
Martin Greenstein	2017	Pamela Burger, Chair	2016
Patricia Picard	2017	Franz Burnet-Gocht	2017
Jean Tyler	2018	Judith BomBardier	2017
		Alice Gagnier	2018

Mary Jo Green 2018

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Jason Hoch, Director

FOREST WARDEN

Richard Daniels

FORESTRY/ PEST CONTROL SUPERINTENDENT/TREE WARDEN

Robert E. McCarthy, Jr.

HEALTH INSPECTOR

Jeffrey C. Kennedy

BOARD OF HEALTH

Edwin Steubner, MD	2016	James Parkinson, MD	2018
Ruth Harrison	2016	Ronald Stant, Chair	2019
Marcia Tessier	2017		

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

William Barkin, Chair	2017	Patricia Leach	2018
Sarah Currie	2017	Andrus Burr	2018
Linda Conway	2017		

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Kyle Johnson, Chief	Scott McGowan, Sergeant
Paul Thompson, Sergeant	David Lemieux, Sergeant

POLICE OFFICERS

John J. McConnell, Jr.	Preston Kelly
Shuan William	Scott Skorupski
Tania Hernandez	Michael Ziemba
Craig Eichhammer	Kevin Garner

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER

Colin Shepley	Stephanie Mirante
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POLICE DISPATCHERS

Bill Jennings	Paul Oleskiewicz	Christine Lemoine
Collin Shepley	Laura Tuper	

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS

William Cote	Linda Nichols	Rosella Cote
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SELECTMEN

Jane Patton

The year began with Peter Fohlin announcing to the BoS his intention to retire in April, 2015. Despite our best efforts, we couldn't convince him to reconsider, so we began to search for a new town manager. A search committee was formed, with Tom Sheldon and myself serving as co-chairs of the committee. The search was a fascinating and educational process from start to finish. The search committee was made up of the following volunteers: Joe Finnegan, Debby Dane, Joelle Brookner, Dick DeMayo, Pam Art, Elaine Neely, Andrew Groff, Paul Jennings, Danielle Gonzalez and Stan Parese.

We began the search by identifying four search firms we would consider hiring to help us find the most qualified candidates for the position. We settled on a company out of Chicago, IL called Gov.HR. The other three firms were also very good, however, we thought Gov.HR might have a broader, and more diverse reach in terms of the candidate pool. In addition, one of the co-founders of the company, Joellen Earl, has worked in local government executive positions in three states, including Massachusetts. She has held positions from Human Resources Director and Administrative Services Director to Assistant Town Manager and Assistant County Manager. Ms. Earl has worked in forms of government ranging from Open Town Meeting to Council-Manager and has supervised all municipal and county departments ranging from Public Safety and Public Works to Mental Health and Social Services.

Ms. Earl and her colleague, Lee Szymborski came to Williamstown in early March to meet with the committee and several of the department heads in town hall. It was important to get their input in terms of what they felt were qualifications and experience in a town manager. After this meeting, the ad was placed and over thirty-six applicants sent in resumes. Gov.HR reviewed every resume' and presented the committee with twelve resume's for review. The committee met, established guidelines and procedures, and then as a group, went through each resume'. At the end of that very long session, we had narrowed the field to four applicants we wanted to interview in person. Throughout the process, every committee brought all of their individual experiences and perspectives to the table.

As you now know, the end result was the hiring of Jason Hoch, former town administrator in Littleton, NH and coincidentally, a Williams College alum. Jason was thrilled to land the position, stating this was his "dream job", and he was very happy to get back to Williamstown. He hit the ground running on Tuesday, September 8 and hasn't looked back since.

While that is all wonderful news, the sad side of the story is Peter Fohlin retired after serving Williamstown for fifteen years. Peter will forever be remembered as the town manager that brought fiscal stability to Williamstown, and his dedication to the families displaced from their homes at The Spruces after Hurricane Irene was truly inspirational. He was profoundly resolute in his perseverance in finding appropriate and affordable housing for every single person impacted by the storm. Sometime this spring, the last of

the families from the Spruces will be leaving, and the next part of the project will begin – a study will be contracted to determine the best uses of the land, specifically, to insure we meet the criteria set by FEMA when we accepted the relief money supplied by them after the storm.

Another sad event occurring in 2015 was the resignation of Tom Sheldon from the Board of Selectmen. Tom remains active volunteering for the town, serving on the Affordable Housing Trust among other committees. Tom has been sorely missed – his counsel and thoughtful guidance were the essence of the BoS for many years. Anne O'Connor ran for his seat and has been a great addition to the BoS.

The Economic Development Committee, spearheaded by Jeffrey Thomas, Andy Hogeland and Karen Lartin presented their findings in December. Their work was thorough and unparalleled in terms of the effort put in by the entire committee. Other members of the committee are: James B. Art, attorney; Tracy E. Baker, entrepreneur/proprietor; Hugh M. Daley, entrepreneur/proprietor; Paul A. Harsch, III, real estate professional; Thomas J. Loughman, museum professional; Frederick W. Puddester, college financial officer; Stephen C. Sheppard, professor of economics; Sandra Thomas, business association professional

Several issues were identified as high priority items – most important of all, the recognition that the Mount Greylock High School Building Project is the highest priority for the town. In addition, the committee suggested the following: Encourage business networks between Williamstown employers and others in the town and region to increase multiplier. Educational quality: Continue strong and unwavering commitment and work to improve graduation rates. Improve housing affordability by increasing overall housing supply and house building. Based on findings by the EDC, Selectman Andy Hogeland has proposed a “Request for Information” from broadband providers. This will help determine whether this option makes sense for Williamstown in terms of demand and expense. There are many other suggestions as well; the full report is available on the town website.

Lastly, we must all be hyper vigilant about the increasing abuse of opioids in our community and the surrounding areas. This problem is incredibly serious and spreading daily.

Thank you,

Jane Patton

TOWN MANAGER

Jason Hoch

The previous year marked significant transition in the office of Town Manager. Early in the year, Peter Fohlin announced his retirement after fifteen years of service to the Town of Williamstown. After a brief period during which Tim Kaiser, Director of Public Works, served as Interim Town Manager, Peter returned in a part-time capacity through the end of August.

It is a tremendous honor and sometimes daunting challenge to step into the office of Town Manager following in Peter's footsteps. Williamstown has been part of my life for the past twenty five years from a prospective college student, to Williams student, to alumnus. While I have served other communities in New Hampshire for the past eighteen years, I always found time to visit Williamstown and watched both the changes and permanence over that time.

Closeout work continued throughout the year at the Spruces Manufactured Housing Community. The process of relocating residents to safe and appropriate housing is nearing its end. By the end of the year, several residents remained awaiting a late winter move to Highland Woods, a new development off Southworth Street with forty units of affordable senior housing. The gentle transition into winter has allowed our Public Works Department to make significant progress in preparing the Spruces site for closure and transition to a flood-plain compatible future use. This has required removal of vacated mobile homes and associated driveways and pads as well as of two buildings, an apartment building and the recreation center. Those two buildings required additional contracted work for asbestos removal before the eventual demolition. As may be expected, a project of this on the ground complexity has similar challenges in managing paperwork in our office. Again, the Town is well served by administrative staff tracking the expenses, grant reimbursements and tenant payments for this project.

Over the past year, the Town's Economic Development Committee devoted many hours of analysis and careful thought to opportunities to strengthen our local economy. Some of these recommendations look inward to Town Hall while others encourage broader partnerships within the community and the region. Their final report delivered to the Board of Selectmen outlines a number of good suggestions that we will pursue and integrate into the overall work of Town leadership and staff in the coming years.

One of the recommendations of that report and a priority already identified by the community was a plan to renovate the Mount Greylock Regional High School. As the School Building Committee and School Committee finalized plans with the Massachusetts School Building Authority, the Town was closely involved with School Committee leaders to finalize an updated Regionalization agreement. Late in 2015, we held a Special Town Meeting during which voters unanimously approved changes to the agreement that establish a fairer sharing of capital expenses through the life of a bond, recognizing that student population and overall assessed value will likely change during the anticipated 29 year life of a bond to pay for the work. As 2016 opened, plans were

being finalized and both Williamstown and Lanesborough were anticipating debt exclusion votes as the next key step to move forward with this project.

I appreciate the willingness of so many residents to welcome me into your community. During my first few months here, I enjoyed the opportunity to meet many of you. I look forward to continuing to have conversations with many more of you as I come to understand what you value about Williamstown and your aspirations for its future. We are all well served by tremendous staff throughout Town departments. I have been thoroughly impressed by the knowledge, dedication and enthusiasm shown by our staff. We will strive to continue to uphold that trust and confidence you have placed in us and will endeavor to continue to provide services of which you can be proud.

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS

1753 HOUSE COMMITTEE

Lauren Stevens

The 1753 House Committee maintains a structure that, while a replica, has now become a 62-year-old relic that never ceases to intrigue local citizens and visitors. They continue to marvel at how the town's founders built and how they lived.

Particular kudos to David Loomis, who has repaired furniture and, in a bravura job, re-hung the door. David was also the fire-lighter and minder at the annual '53 House Carol Sing, held Sunday evening December 20th. The event, organized by Gail Burns with songs lead by Deborah Burns, attracted a full house on a mild evening, for joyful music—and fond remembrances of town leaders Hank Flynt, Jan Keep and Dick DeMayo. Hank Art provided the greens and Andy and Lauren them heaped on the rafters. Marilyn hung the appropriate swag on the door and Sarah helped publicize the event. The Williams Inn donated wassail.

Dick Steege introduced Williamstown Elementary School third graders to the building in June. David and Lauren provided the shake-splitting event at the Hopkins Forest Fall Festival, using tools and skills that were used to construct the House. It is unclear whether the appeal to the many who participated was the insight into old-time methods or the chance to whack the froe with a large wooden maul.

Thanks primarily to Sarah, Marilyn and Lauren; the House was open to visitors from Memorial Day to Williams College's Family Days in late October. In 2014, a breakthrough year in the number of visitors, more than 500 signed in legibly, including home town; in 2015, the number rose to 683, representing 38 states (plus D.C.). The top three: Massachusetts, New York and California.

International guests came from 23 countries, up by two from the previous year. In total there were 93, plus 12 Canadians, compared to 76 in 2014. Twenty-seven identified themselves as from England or the United Kingdom, two from Scotland, three from Wales and one from Northern Ireland. Germany weighed in with 11.

A visitor from Albany commented he would like to live in the House to pursue "the simple life." Another asked if it were a timeshare and another, a freshman dorm. One visitor stated he "thought Williams would have more modern facilities." One person claimed to be the first through-hiker on the Appalachian Trail, dated July 17—and subject to verification. One visitor commented "Go Bernie."

The Committee welcomed Keith Davis.

Members of the '53 House Committee are Henry Art (honorary), Andrus Burr, Sarah Currie, Keith Davis, Marilyn Faulkner, David Loomis and Lauren R. Stevens.

ACCOUNTANT

Donna Estes

ANNUAL REPORT OF BUDGETS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING; JUNE 30, 2015

Account	Original Budget	Revised Budget	FY14 Encumber	Receipts	Total Available	Expended	FY15 Encumber	Balance
Appropriations - General								
Selectmen	6,950.00	11,950.00	0.00	0.00	11,950.00	11,315.29	514.50	120.21
Town Manager	234,796.00	237,496.00	0.00	0.00	237,496.00	237,437.59	0.00	58.41
Insurance	112,188.00	112,188.00	0.00	0.00	112,188.00	109,960.90	0.00	2,227.10
Finance Committee	797.00	797.00	0.00	0.00	797.00	176.00	0.00	621.00
Reserve Fund	75,000.00	55,000.00	0.00	0.00	55,000.00	0.00	0.00	55,000.00
Town Accountant	197,278.00	168,278.00	3,400.00	0.00	171,678.00	170,298.09	814.16	565.75
Assessor	148,690.00	144,190.00	6,416.42	0.00	150,606.42	139,344.03	4,219.92	7,042.47
Treasurer-Collector	174,915.00	174,915.00	0.00	0.00	174,915.00	166,730.42	0.00	8,184.58
Town Counsel	35,000.00	35,000.00	0.00	0.00	35,000.00	25,504.16	0.00	9,495.84
Management Information Systems	66,727.00	65,423.00	15,931.67	0.00	81,354.67	71,817.24	9,491.18	46.25
Town Clerk	83,348.00	85,652.00	0.00	0.00	85,652.00	83,733.49	333.77	1,584.74
Board of Registrars	20,202.00	20,202.00	0.00	0.00	20,202.00	17,446.05	0.00	2,755.95
Conservation Commission	11,064.00	11,329.00	0.00	0.00	11,329.00	11,328.12	0.00	0.88
Agricultural Commission	1,000.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	570.91	0.00	29.09
Planning Board	2,525.00	2,160.00	1,000.00	0.00	3,160.00	2,929.95	0.00	230.05
Zoning Board	3,990.00	4,260.00	1,000.00	0.00	5,260.00	5,258.92	0.00	1.08
Historical Commission	500.00	730.00	0.00	0.00	730.00	727.72	0.00	2.28
Chamber of Commerce	39,824.00	39,824.00	40,066.00	0.00	79,890.00	39,824.00	0.00	40,066.00
Facilities Management	191,739.00	191,739.00	97.00	0.00	191,836.00	176,497.52	5,000.00	10,338.48
Police Department	1,158,873.00	1,182,873.00	29.00	0.00	1,182,902.00	1,182,786.99	0.00	115.01
Police Station Design Development	0.00	0.00	303,295.00	0.00	303,295.00	0.00	303,295.00	0.00
Dispatch Services	180,732.00	148,132.00	3,529.10	0.00	151,661.10	146,499.07	2,077.50	3,084.53
Community Development	330,177.00	330,027.00	4,431.26	0.00	334,458.26	338,337.99	0.00	6,120.27
Replace 2003 Ford Escape Hybrid	24,000.00	24,000.00	0.00	0.00	24,000.00	23,983.00	0.00	17.00
Sealer of Weights & Measures	6,769.00	6,769.00	0.00	0.00	6,769.00	6,499.82	0.00	269.18
Emergency Management	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	25.00
Animal Control Officer	8,005.00	8,005.00	176.00	0.00	8,181.00	6,438.68	227.00	1,515.32

Forest Warden	6,413.00	15,013.00	1,639.00	0.00	16,652.00	16,594.71	0.00	57.29
Director of Public Works	159,706.00	159,706.00	14,726.06	0.00	174,432.06	157,030.67	14,907.17	2,494.22
DPW Facility Photovoltaic System	0.00	0.00	7,858.99	0.00	7,858.99	7,858.99	0.00	0.00
Highway Department	1,212,252.00	1,212,252.00	440,088.59	0.00	1,652,340.59	1,160,963.57	418,490.55	72,886.47
Sidewalk & Curb Replacement - North & Ma	0.00	0.00	145,000.00	0.00	145,000.00	145,000.00	0.00	0.00
Arnold Street Sidewalk repair	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00	0.00
Water Street Sidewalk Replacement	0.00	0.00	74,917.25	0.00	74,917.25	25,440.75	49,476.50	0.00
No. Hoistic Road Stabilization - Engineering	43,000.00	43,000.00	0.00	0.00	43,000.00	0.00	43,000.00	0.00
McCauley Lane Drainage	0.00	0.00	43,254.00	0.00	43,254.00	0.00	43,254.00	0.00
Construction - Gale Road	281,980.00	281,980.00	0.00	0.00	281,980.00	33,235.01	246,744.99	0.00
Replace 2002 Ford Dump Truck	62,000.00	62,000.00	0.00	0.00	62,000.00	62,000.00	0.00	0.00
Snow and Ice Control	166,863.00	166,863.00	0.00	0.00	166,863.00	170,809.42	0.00	(3,946.42)
Parks and Cemetery	253,870.00	243,670.00	21,859.75	0.00	265,529.75	238,913.29	19,937.26	6,679.20
Replace 2003 Chevrolet 4x4 dump Truck	0.00	0.00	6,561.00	0.00	6,561.00	3,395.00	0.00	3,166.00
Cemetery Roads Repair	0.00	0.00	1,199.21	0.00	1,199.21	0.00	1,199.21	0.00
Sherman Burbank Chapel	5,290.00	5,290.00	0.00	0.00	5,290.00	4,777.05	0.00	512.95
Forestry Department	43,978.00	43,978.00	12,337.00	0.00	56,315.00	49,942.12	6,372.88	0.00
Health Department	104,818.00	104,968.00	150.00	0.00	105,118.00	105,094.82	0.00	23.18
Council on Aging	255,351.00	246,351.00	6,203.00	0.00	252,554.00	242,588.06	103.00	9,862.94
Veterans Benefits	93,192.00	85,192.00	0.00	0.00	85,192.00	83,235.12	0.00	1,956.88
Library	522,885.00	522,885.00	4,585.00	0.00	527,470.00	527,224.47	0.00	245.53
Library - Sidewalks	125,000.00	125,000.00	0.00	0.00	125,000.00	6,850.00	118,150.00	0.00
Recreation Commission	11,516.00	11,516.00	0.00	0.00	11,516.00	9,458.34	0.00	2,057.66
Youth Center	70,273.00	70,273.00	0.00	0.00	70,273.00	70,272.00	0.00	1.00
Veterans Graves and Holidays	3,090.00	3,090.00	0.00	0.00	3,090.00	1,966.40	0.00	1,123.60
General Debt Service	453,338.00	525,338.00	0.00	0.00	525,338.00	525,302.18	0.00	35.82
Employees Benefits	1,065,933.00	1,065,933.00	113,181.91	0.00	1,179,114.91	1,097,960.57	57,228.17	23,926.17
Transfers to other Funds	75,500.00	75,500.00	0.00	0.00	75,500.00	75,500.00	0.00	0.00
Local Public Schools	5,632,143.00	5,632,143.00	44,890.48	0.00	5,677,033.48	5,670,073.68	6,959.20	0.60
Mt Greylock Regional School	4,725,539.00	4,725,539.00	0.00	0.00	4,725,539.00	4,725,539.00	0.00	0.00
Northern Berk Vocational School	292,610.00	292,610.00	0.00	0.00	292,610.00	289,651.47	0.00	2,958.53
Total Appropriated - General	18,806,674.00	18,806,674.00	1,317,822.69	0.00	20,124,496.69	18,474,122.64	1,376,795.96	273,578.09

Appropriations - Enterprise								
Transfer Station	170,886.00	170,886.00	5,077.41	0.00	175,963.41	167,614.36	0.00	8,349.05
Sustainable Materials Recovery	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	530.46	0.00	(530.46)
Sewer Department	357,549.00	357,549.00	44,043.17	0.00	401,592.17	371,562.89	46,220.80	(16,191.52)
Pump Station repair	0.00	0.00	65,000.00	0.00	65,000.00	0.00	65,000.00	0.00
Pick-up Truck	13,000.00	13,000.00	500.00	0.00	13,500.00	12,867.00	500.00	133.00
Sewer Debt Service	109,325.00	109,325.00	0.00	0.00	109,325.00	84,324.76	0.00	25,000.24
Water Meter Replacements	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00	17,857.55	7,142.45	0.00
Permit Compliance	0.00	0.00	21,549.70	0.00	21,549.70	19,378.26	2,171.44	0.00
Syndicate Road Sewer Line	0.00	0.00	32,230.69	0.00	32,230.69	11,304.74	20,925.95	0.00
Transfers to General Fund	82,219.00	82,219.00	0.00	0.00	82,219.00	82,219.44	0.00	(0.44)
Transfers to Reserve	77,675.00	77,675.00	0.00	0.00	77,675.00	0.00	0.00	77,675.00
Hoosac Water Quality District	641,977.00	641,977.00	0.00	0.00	641,977.00	638,266.83	3,710.17	0.00
Water Department	616,374.00	616,374.00	19,035.25	0.00	635,409.25	653,570.54	0.00	(18,161.29)
Main St Water Main Replacement	0.00	0.00	87,774.90	0.00	87,774.90	0.00	87,774.90	0.00
Well 1 Rehabilitation	75,000.00	75,000.00	0.00	0.00	75,000.00	0.00	75,000.00	0.00
Arnold Street Water Main Replacement	0.00	0.00	21,469.04	0.00	21,469.04	12,726.25	8,742.79	0.00
Water Meter Replacements	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00	17,569.28	7,430.72	0.00
Water Debt Service	187,824.00	187,824.00	0.00	0.00	187,824.00	162,824.00	0.00	25,000.00
Mill St. Main Replacement	90,000.00	90,000.00	0.00	0.00	90,000.00	45,382.24	44,617.66	0.10
Pick-up Truck	13,000.00	13,000.00	0.00	0.00	13,000.00	12,867.00	0.00	133.00
Transfer to Reserves	9,176.00	9,176.00	0.00	0.00	9,176.00	0.00	0.00	9,176.00
Transfers to General Fund	117,081.00	117,081.00	0.00	0.00	117,081.00	117,081.00	0.00	0.00
Total Appropriated - General	2,611,086.00	2,611,086.00	296,680.16	0.00	2,907,766.16	2,427,946.60	369,236.88	110,582.68
Tax Rate Assessments								
State Assessments	29,801.00	29,801.00	0.00	0.00	29,801.00	73,941.00	0.00	(44,140.00)
County Assessments	31,486.00	31,486.00	0.00	0.00	31,486.00	31,486.00	0.00	0.00
Other Assessments	158,350.00	158,350.00	0.00	0.00	158,350.00	163,810.59	0.00	(5,460.59)
Total Tax Rate Assessments	219,637.00	219,637.00	0.00	0.00	219,637.00	269,237.59	0.00	(49,600.59)
Borrowed Funds								
Cemetery Building	0.00	0.00	1,778.55	0.00	1,778.55	0.00	1,778.55	0.00
Inflow and Infiltration	0.00	0.00	239,111.31	0.00	239,111.31	0.00	239,111.31	0.00
Well #1 Replacement	0.00	0.00	118,540.44	0.00	118,540.44	118,540.44	0.00	0.00
Phase II and Cole Field Landfill Closure	0.00	0.00	43,095.67	0.00	43,095.67	15,396.92	27,698.75	0.00
Total Borrowed Funds	0.00	0.00	402,525.97	0.00	402,525.97	133,937.36	268,588.61	0.00

Special Revenue Funds									
School Lunch Revolving Fund	0.00	0.00	6,895.69	107,163.05	114,058.74	94,481.83		19,576.91	0.00
Highway Flood Control - Green River	0.00	0.00	474.60	0.00	474.60	0.00		474.60	0.00
Highway - Cole Ave Bridge	0.00	0.00	517.74	0.00	517.74	0.00		517.74	0.00
Highway - Linear Park Bridge	0.00	0.00	4,044.12	0.00	4,044.12	0.00		4,044.12	0.00
Highway - Syndicate Stabilization Grant	0.00	0.00	5,243.80	0.00	5,243.80	0.00		5,243.80	0.00
Highway - Chapter 90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	343,187.53		(343,187.53)	0.00
Highway - Roaring Brook Grant	0.00	0.00	6,575.96	0.00	6,575.96	0.00		6,575.96	0.00
School - SPED Professional Development	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00
School - Title II - Math & Science	0.00	0.00	(4,000.00)	13,500.00	9,500.00	12,090.70		(2,590.70)	0.00
School - Quality Kindergarten Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,610.00	23,610.00	23,610.00		0.00	0.00
School - Circuit Breaker	0.00	0.00	67,964.96	86,709.00	154,673.96	67,611.76		87,062.20	0.00
School - School Choice	0.00	0.00	201,570.37	237,644.00	439,214.37	260,845.15		178,369.22	0.00
School - Early Childhood - WEE	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,977.60	4,977.60	8,296.33		(3,318.73)	0.00
School - Title I	0.00	0.00	(6,930.00)	46,787.00	39,857.00	52,128.74		(12,271.74)	0.00
School - P.L. 94-142	0.00	0.00	(18,402.27)	121,297.00	102,894.73	118,709.80		(15,815.07)	0.00
School - Race to the Top	0.00	0.00	267.81	5,483.00	5,750.81	5,750.81		0.00	0.00
CDBG Housing - Stenierfilm	0.00	0.00	15,650.40	0.00	15,650.40	0.00		15,650.40	0.00
CDBG Highland Woods	0.00	0.00	0.00	236,178.41	236,178.41	232,178.90		3,999.51	0.00
Community Preservation Act Fund	0.00	0.00	414,536.10	1,383,340.28	1,797,876.38	1,391,121.56		406,754.82	0.00
Selectmen - Spruces HMG	0.00	0.00	(568,834.14)	690,584.35	121,750.21	624,301.86		(502,551.65)	0.00
Selectmen - Cable Technology Fund	0.00	0.00	5,874.71	0.00	5,874.71	0.00		5,874.71	0.00
Selectmen - Spruces Revolver	0.00	0.00	22,132.60	85,637.00	107,769.60	64,162.40		43,607.20	0.00
Selectmen - Affordable Housing - Phototech	0.00	0.00	(76,368.22)	0.00	(76,368.22)	0.00		(76,368.22)	0.00
Selectmen - Solarize MA Program	0.00	0.00	23.03	0.00	23.03	0.00		23.03	0.00
Town Clerk - Polling Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	4,710.77	1,301.00	6,011.77	2,584.06		3,427.71	0.00
County Dog Tax Refund	0.00	0.00	19,648.00	0.00	19,648.00	0.00		19,648.00	0.00
ConCom - Wetlands Fees	0.00	0.00	28,523.38	0.00	28,523.38	119.94		28,403.44	0.00
ConCom - Stone Hill Stewardship Grant	0.00	0.00	2,805.00	0.00	2,805.00	0.00		2,805.00	0.00
Econ Develop - FmHA Exec Park	0.00	0.00	1,617.95	0.00	1,617.95	0.00		1,617.95	0.00
Econ Develop - Bike Trail Gift	0.00	0.00	5,416.15	0.00	5,416.15	251.51		5,164.64	0.00
Econ Develop - Canoe Access Facility Grant	0.00	0.00	5,500.00	0.00	5,500.00	0.00		5,500.00	0.00
Pub Property - LRS Oil Tank Grant	0.00	0.00	(2,787.50)	0.00	(2,787.50)	0.00		(2,787.50)	0.00
Pub Property - Damaged Property	0.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	750.00	0.00		750.00	0.00
Pub Property - Sale of Property	0.00	0.00	235,580.00	0.00	235,580.00	0.00		235,580.00	0.00
Pub Property - Green Community Grant	0.00	0.00	(33,926.17)	35,500.00	1,573.83	0.00		1,573.83	0.00
Pub Property - OATA	0.00	0.00	(4,887.48)	9,570.00	4,682.52	4,682.52		0.00	0.00

Police - Support Fund	0.00	0.00	30,888.96	5,450.00	36,338.96	0.00	36,338.96	0.00
Police - Drug Task Force	0.00	0.00	17,478.10	7,143.99	24,622.09	7,016.13	17,605.96	0.00
Police - Forfeiture Funds	0.00	0.00	11,448.10	750.00	12,198.10	0.00	12,198.10	0.00
Police - Defibrillator Gift	0.00	0.00	714.54	0.00	714.54	0.00	714.54	0.00
Police - School Resource Officer Gift	0.00	0.00	8,575.82	0.00	8,575.82	0.00	8,575.82	0.00
Police - Bullet Proof Vest Grant	0.00	0.00	3,084.50	0.00	3,084.50	570.00	2,514.50	0.00
Police - COPS Fast Grant	0.00	0.00	14,026.79	0.00	14,026.79	0.00	14,026.79	0.00
Police - Public Safety & Equipment Grant	0.00	0.00	436.97	0.00	436.97	(1,199.50)	1,636.47	0.00
Police - Damaged Property	0.00	0.00	1,770.44	0.00	1,770.44	0.00	1,770.44	0.00
Police - K9 Gifts	0.00	0.00	9,115.08	0.00	9,115.08	0.00	9,115.08	0.00
Police - E911 Training Grant	0.00	0.00	(8,875.96)	8,878.17	2.21	16,818.77	(16,816.56)	0.00
Police - E911 Communications Grant	0.00	0.00	(14,427.91)	23,661.28	9,233.37	25,834.38	(16,601.01)	0.00
Police - REACH Triad Grant	0.00	0.00	144.54	0.00	144.54	0.00	144.54	0.00
Police - Highway Safety Grant	0.00	0.00	10,298.35	0.00	10,298.35	0.00	10,298.35	0.00
Police - COPS MORE Grant	0.00	0.00	4,013.23	0.00	4,013.23	0.00	4,013.23	0.00
Forest Warden - Assist Firefighters	0.00	0.00	944.50	1,060.00	2,004.50	1,199.50	805.00	0.00
DIS - Damaged Property	0.00	0.00	31.17	0.00	31.17	0.00	31.17	0.00
Civil Defense - Emergency Management Grant	0.00	0.00	5,862.48	1,975.00	7,837.48	4,813.05	3,024.43	0.00
Civil Defense - Emergency Preparedness	0.00	0.00	1,448.62	0.00	1,448.62	206.68	1,241.94	0.00
Animal Control - Operations Gift	0.00	0.00	114.13	50.00	164.13	0.00	164.13	0.00
DPW - Damaged Prop	0.00	0.00	434.56	0.00	434.56	236.50	198.06	0.00
DPW - Irene - Lucs Road Headwall	0.00	0.00	(5,254.36)	4,917.26	(337.10)	0.00	(337.10)	0.00
DPW - Irene - Protective Measures	0.00	0.00	2,110.41	(4,222.44)	(2,112.03)	0.00	(2,112.03)	0.00
DPW - Fed Snow & Ice	0.00	0.00	35,629.88	0.00	35,629.88	33,000.00	2,629.88	0.00
DPW - Rapid Road Recovery	0.00	0.00	0.00	45,749.00	45,749.00	45,430.03	318.97	0.00
DPW - Winter Recovery Assistance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	45,737.49	(45,737.49)	0.00
Parks - Litchfield Beautification Gift	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00
Parks - Damaged Prop	0.00	0.00	353.06	0.00	353.06	0.00	353.06	0.00
Parks - Sherman Chapel Gifts	0.00	0.00	50.00	100.00	150.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
Forestry - Gift	0.00	0.00	1,689.50	0.00	1,689.50	0.00	1,689.50	0.00
Forestry - Damaged Prop	0.00	0.00	2,487.99	0.00	2,487.99	0.00	2,487.99	0.00
Health - MAAG - Right to Farm	0.00	0.00	876.90	0.00	876.90	140.00	736.90	0.00
Health - FRCOG-TURI	0.00	0.00	36.01	0.00	36.01	19.88	16.13	0.00
COA - Activity Fund	0.00	0.00	5,500.49	4,016.02	9,516.51	5,834.49	3,682.02	0.00
COA - Formula Grant	0.00	0.00	3,280.76	16,784.00	20,064.76	20,064.36	0.40	0.00
COA - Damaged Property Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	97.20	0.00	97.20	0.00	97.20	0.00
COA - CPR Grant	0.00	0.00	355.00	0.00	355.00	0.00	355.00	0.00
COA - Public Health Incentive Grant	0.00	0.00	40.80	0.00	40.80	0.00	40.80	0.00
COA - Incentive Grant	0.00	0.00	20.90	0.00	20.90	0.00	20.90	0.00
COA - Senior Comm. Nutrition Assess	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
COA - Aging Mastery Program	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,255.93	1,255.93	1,255.93	0.00	0.00

Lib - Museum Pass Gift	0.00	0.00	6,960.00	0.00	6,960.00	930.00	6,030.00	0.00
Lib - Gifts for Books	0.00	0.00	6,599.28	1,567.31	8,126.59	223.87	7,902.72	0.00
Lib - Damaged Prop	0.00	0.00	4,701.07	165.00	4,866.07	4,015.38	850.49	0.00
Lib - LIG/NEG Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,487.32	10,487.32	10,487.32	0.00	0.00
Lib - Operations Gift	0.00	0.00	(14,907.62)	38,912.00	24,004.38	24,004.38	0.00	(0.00)
Library - Revolving Fund	0.00	0.00	0.71	4,030.55	4,031.26	1,987.23	2,044.03	0.00
Recreation - Revolving Act	0.00	0.00	3,600.39	0.00	3,600.39	0.00	3,600.39	0.00
Recreation - Skateboard Park Gift	0.00	0.00	436.59	0.00	436.59	0.00	436.59	0.00
Benefits - BHG Health Coordinator	0.00	0.00	2,651.73	2,000.00	4,651.73	2,351.26	2,300.47	0.00
School - Field Trips	0.00	0.00	2,827.78	0.00	2,827.78	2,827.78	0.00	0.00
School - After School Tutoring	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,920.00	1,920.00	1,670.44	249.56	0.00
School - Outdoor Classroom Gifts	0.00	0.00	2,077.69	691.40	2,769.09	580.98	2,188.11	0.00
School - Computer Tech Gifts	0.00	0.00	187.80	0.00	187.80	0.00	187.80	0.00
School - Adventures in Learning Gifts	0.00	0.00	10,512.83	0.00	10,512.83	10,512.83	0.00	0.00
School - Health Materials	0.00	0.00	0.00	993.64	993.64	993.64	0.00	0.00
School - Sunrise Spanish	0.00	0.00	631.67	0.00	631.67	210.64	421.03	0.00
School - Library Books	0.00	0.00	22,210.59	2,230.00	24,460.59	4,493.10	19,967.49	0.00
School - PTO Educ Materials	0.00	0.00	11,112.76	5,964.00	17,076.76	15,769.09	1,307.67	0.00
School - Teacher Salary Gift	0.00	0.00	53,779.42	5,979.20	59,758.62	12,486.75	47,271.87	0.00
School - Music Gift	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,730.75	4,730.75	4,730.75	0.00	0.00
School - After School WISH Program	0.00	0.00	1,579.37	0.00	1,579.37	1,579.37	0.00	0.00
School - WESE Grants	0.00	0.00	3,495.05	29,663.43	33,158.48	25,151.38	8,006.90	0.00
School - 6th Grade Fund	0.00	0.00	5,573.90	27,210.02	32,783.92	29,658.36	3,125.56	0.00
School - Principal Gift	0.00	0.00	556.14	924.73	1,480.87	1,112.05	368.82	0.00
School - Green School Grant	0.00	0.00	2,727.81	0.00	2,727.81	2,727.81	0.00	0.00
School - Oil Tank Removal Grant	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00
School - Tuition	0.00	0.00	16,786.90	112,151.71	128,938.61	128,938.61	(20.00)	0.00
School - Summer School Tuition	0.00	0.00	1,059.42	0.00	1,059.42	0.00	1,059.42	0.00
School - Transportation Fees	0.00	0.00	(0.19)	5,845.00	5,844.81	3,773.00	2,071.81	0.00
School - Rental	0.00	0.00	54,533.05	7,030.00	61,563.05	59,481.63	2,081.42	0.00
Total Special Revenue	0.00	0.00	691,793.05	3,469,365.96	4,161,159.01	3,868,811.14	292,347.87	(0.00)

Trust Funds								
Affordable Housing	0.00	0.00	395,824.18	76,418.60	472,242.78	374,612.25	97,630.53	0.00
Alma Morey	0.00	0.00	22,097.03	176.76	22,273.79	0.00	22,273.79	0.00
Boisford - House of Local History Trust	0.00	0.00	42,055.55	210.27	42,265.82	856.00	41,409.82	0.00
Boisford - Library Trust	0.00	0.00	84,755.12	831.67	85,586.79	0.00	85,586.79	0.00
Bullock Forest	0.00	0.00	107,912.17	863.29	108,775.46	0.00	108,775.46	0.00
C.D. Foster	0.00	0.00	1,913.60	9.56	1,923.16	0.00	1,923.16	0.00
Conservation Commission	0.00	0.00	7,458.08	500.00	7,958.08	7,096.66	861.42	0.00
Helen Renzi School	0.00	0.00	10,076.86	50.58	10,127.44	45.38	10,082.06	0.00
J.E. Bascom	0.00	0.00	11,003.09	55.01	11,058.10	0.00	11,058.10	0.00
Library Annual Fund	0.00	0.00	95,683.06	8,101.97	103,785.03	30,214.35	73,570.68	0.00
Library Carpenter Fund	0.00	0.00	9,883.07	49.42	9,932.49	0.00	9,932.49	0.00
Margaret Lindley	0.00	0.00	2,472.63	12.37	2,485.00	0.00	2,485.00	0.00
Municipal Scholarship	0.00	0.00	36,515.08	3,535.91	40,050.99	800.00	39,250.99	0.00
OPEB Liability trust	0.00	0.00	150,041.00	75,794.28	225,835.28	0.00	225,835.28	0.00
Perpetual Care Income	0.00	0.00	5,043.73	1,936.86	6,980.59	3,000.00	3,980.59	0.00
Perpetual Care Principal	0.00	0.00	352,621.13	13,815.00	366,436.13	0.00	366,436.13	0.00
Sale of Lots	0.00	0.00	24,236.86	1,400.00	25,636.86	0.00	25,636.86	0.00
Sherman Burbank	0.00	0.00	8,627.16	8,730.09	17,357.25	13,533.00	3,824.25	0.00
Stabilization Fund	0.00	0.00	859,684.05	6,679.33	866,363.38	0.00	866,363.38	0.00
Torrey Woods	0.00	0.00	2,987.51	23.90	3,011.41	0.00	3,011.41	0.00
West Lawn Cemetery	0.00	0.00	161,707.56	8,103.94	169,811.50	0.00	169,811.50	0.00
Total Trust Funds	0.00	0.00	2,392,598.52	207,298.81	2,599,897.33	430,157.64	2,169,739.69	0.00
Total All Expenditures	21,637,397.00	21,637,397.00	5,101,420.39	3,676,664.77	30,415,482.16	25,604,212.97	4,476,709.01	334,560.18

AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE

Van Ellet, Chair

This has been a successful and rewarding year for the Affordable Housing Committee, and for affordable housing in Williamstown—the result of years of hard work by the AHC, other town committees, and community organizations. Most notably, significant progress was made in the development of three affordable housing projects, representing 99 new housing units. The AHC worked throughout the year to monitor the progress of these projects, to keep the public informed about their status and to facilitate public input when needed.

Two projects: Highland Woods and Cable Mills, which have been under development for many years are now nearing completion and are scheduled to open in early 2016. The Highland Woods project, which consists of 40 units of senior housing, will provide a critical housing option for current or former residents of the Spruces. It will also expand the availability of much-needed capacity to serve other seniors with incomes below 60% of the area median income (AMI). Thirteen new housing units at Cable Mills, which will serve individuals or families with higher incomes up to 80% of the AMI, are now also ready to open. In addition, initial work began on the development of the affordable housing project at 330 Cole Avenue, which is expected to include 46 units for individuals and families of all ages.

The year has also been marked by the transformation of the AHC itself. The committee has undergone a significant reorganization, adding two new members (Joan Rubel and Alison O’Grady). The AHC also spent a considerable part of the year rethinking what we would like to accomplish in the future. Towards this end, the AHC revised its Mission Statement, which includes a broadening of the scope of our work. Historically, the AHC limited its focus to affordable (subsidized) housing for the low and moderate income populations below 80% of the AMI, which is what many people think of when they hear the term “affordable housing.” Instead, our future work will now strive to ensure that all residents of Williamstown will have access to “housing that is affordable,” including middle-income individuals and families. However, more subsidized housing options, preferably small-scale developments (e.g., from 3-10 units) will remain a top priority of the committee.

Given the demographics of Williamstown, the AHC’s work will emphasize the housing needs of the Town’s senior population, both now and in the future. We plan to look at the significant mismatch between the current housing stock in the community and the housing needs of seniors. Working with other town committees and other regional organizations, the AHC will be documenting the need for various kinds of housing, as well as researching available resources and programs to address those needs. The committee started to investigate ways to use our existing housing more efficiently, as well as to explore an array of new housing options (e.g. housing with services) towards the end of the year. We hope our efforts will eventually help to ensure that adequate, appropriate housing is available to allow seniors to stay in Williamstown as they age.

Finally, the AHC has been working closely with other committees, such as the Economic Committee (EDC) and the Planning Board on housing issues. Clearly, there is a new and growing awareness, as evidenced by the recommendations relating to housing in the EDC's final report, that the availability of better, more affordable housing options is important to the economic health of the community. Our future efforts and goals as a committee are in built upon that belief.

This has been a very good year for improving access to appropriate, affordable housing options, but much remains to be done in the years ahead.

Van Ellet, Chair
Vivienne Jaffe, Clerk
Alison O'Grady
Joan Rubel
Leigh Short, Vice-Chair

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND

Thomas Sheldon, Chairman



AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST

The past year, the third full year of operation for the trust, was busy and productive. Two initiatives that grew out of the discussion, research and exploration, of the prior year's came to fruition.

The Richard L. DeMayo Mortgage Assistance Program provided grants of \$15,000 each to enable six families to purchase homes in Williamstown. The grants are applied to down payments, closing costs, private mortgage insurance, tax and insurance escrow, and necessary repairs. The local lending institutions which determined the applicants' program eligibility and qualified them for mortgages have informed the Trust that the recipients would not have been able to secure mortgages without the grants.

The Trust is deeply grateful to the residents of Williamstown and the Community Preservation Committee for the financial support that enabled this program which has exceeded our expectations. The Town is richer for the presence of these six first-time homeowners. The Trust is attempting to raise additional funds to continue the program.

The Trust also acquired two building lots pursuant to a Request for Proposals—one on Summer Street and a second on the corner of Maple Street and Cole Avenue. The Trust intends to issue a follow-up RFP to award one or both properties to entities such as Habitat for Humanity that would build homes on the vacant land. The homes would be for low income families and the properties would have a deed restriction ensuring that families who purchase the properties in the future also meet affordable housing criteria (at or below 80% of Area Median Income).

The Trust will continue to explore programs that will expand the stock of affordable housing in Williamstown and to pursue funding opportunities to sustain those efforts.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

William Barkin, Chairman

FY2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59 specifically equates that fair cash value be the standard by which property is taxed. A comprehensive appraisal system, as well as constant monitoring of real estate market fluctuations is needed in order for the Board of Assessors to meet this statutory requirement.

The Massachusetts Department of Revenue, Bureau of Local Assessment granted approval of Williamstown's fiscal 2015 triennial certification on September 22, 2014. Analysis of real estate transactions from January 2012 through December 2013, as well as commercial income and expense data, were conducted during the revaluation. The results are that all property assessments were adjusted to reflect full and fair cash value as of January 1, 2014.

The completed reappraisal confirms that the total taxable valuation of the Town has decreased 6.9% since the last certification in fiscal 2012 from \$1,030,451,850 to \$958,916,300. The average single-family home value decreased 5.5% from \$376,400 on January 1, 2011 to \$355,600 on January 1, 2014.

The Board of Assessors maintains a property inventory of 2,830 real estate properties and 261 personal property accounts. We strive for 100% accuracy in our assessments. The abatement process allows the Board to view properties that may have errors on the property record card or exhibit market aberrations and thus produce inaccurate assessments. At the beginning of each year the Board conducts field inspections of all building permits issued in the prior calendar year to ascertain new growth.

Submitted by,

William Barkin, Chair

Williamstown Board of Assessors

Computations for Determining Fiscal 2015 Tax Rate

<i>Town Meeting Date</i>	<i>Total Appropriations Each Meeting</i>	<i>From Tax Levy</i>	<i>From Free Cash</i>	<i>From Other Available Funds</i>	<i>From Enterprise Funds</i>	<i>(Memo) Borrowing</i>
5/20/2014	21,409,030	18,515,841	75,000.00	16,533.00	2,801,656	0.00
<u>Totals</u>	<u>21,409,030.00</u>	<u>18,043,355.00</u>	<u>310,000.00</u>	<u>18,013.00</u>	<u>2,912,187.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>

Local Expenditures.....	\$	21,409,030.00
Cherry Sheet Offsets & Other Amounts.....		547,141.70
Overlay.....		147,976.69
<i>Tax Rate Summary</i>		
1. Gross Amount to be Raised.....		22,104,148.39
2. Estimated Receipts and Available Funds.....		7,132,485.00
3. Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation.....	\$	<u>14,971,663.39</u>
4. Real Property Valuation.....	\$941,542,144	
5. Personal Property Valuation.....	\$ 17,565,056	
6. Total Property Valuation.....	<u>\$959,107,200</u>	
7. Tax Rate	15.61	
8. Real Property Tax.....		14,697,472.87
9. Personal Property Tax.....		274,190.52
10. Total Taxes Levied on Property.....	\$	<u>14,971,663.39</u>

Recap Abatements and Exemptions			Recap Motor Vehicle Commitments			
<i>Abatements</i>						
Real Estate	\$	50,241.14				
Personal Property	\$	5,541.43				
<i>Exemptions</i>						
Clause 41C	\$	4,000.00				
Clause 22, 22E		20,400.00				
Clause 17D		1,750.00				
Clause 37		1,312.00				
Clause 42		1,977.79				
Clause 18		700.00				
Total.....	\$	<u>85,922.36</u>				
			<i>Commitments</i>			
			<u>Calendar Year</u>		<u>Valuation</u>	<u>Excise</u>
			1	2015	\$ 20,465,600	\$ 512,197.50
			2	2015	\$ 2,609,400	\$ 62,226.08
			3,4,5	2015	\$ 6,833,200	\$ 98,801.26
			6	2015	\$ 12,059	\$ 377.71
			<u>Totals</u>		<u>\$ 29,920,259</u>	<u>\$ 673,602.55</u>
			<i>Abatements</i>			
			<u>Number</u>		<u>Excise</u>	
			255		\$ 28,405.51	
			<u>Totals</u>		<u>\$28,405.51</u>	

FOR A DETAILED REPORT SEE TREASURER'S SUMMARY

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Andrew Groff, AICP, Director / Town Planner

Ryan Contenta, CBO, Building Commissioner

Robert Rosier, CBO, Local Inspector

Jeffrey Kennedy, RS, Health Inspector

Joseph Beverly, Inspector of Wires

John “Jack” Haig, Inspector of Plumbing and Gas

Sarah Hurlbut, Administrative Assistant

2015 was another year of big changes in the Community Development Department at Town Hall. Last year saw the retirement of two of our longest employed and most thoughtful colleagues, Michael Card and Sam Vince. Mike was able to help an entire generation of Williamstown residents with their home projects and our local land use boards with their various permits and plans over the years, all while ensuring the safety and security of the Town’s built environment. With the exception of a brief foray into the private sector, Mike was a constant presence in the Municipal Building since 1983. He is greatly missed but we wish him the best in his well-deserved retirement. Sam, our Wire Inspector for the last 19 years, was also a helpful and important presence in Town. He cared as deeply about making sure our community members could be safe and comfortable around the electricity in their homes, as he did about his beloved Red Sox. Unfortunately, we are very sad to note that the community lost Sam unexpectedly shortly after his retirement. Our deepest condolences go out to his family and friends. He is sorely missed.

2015 also saw some new faces added to the Third Floor. We were very happy to welcome Robert Rosier to the department as a new Local Building Inspector. Rob brings with him over 20 years of commercial construction experience and has quickly become a valued member of our team. We also welcomed Joe Beverly as Wire Inspector. Joe has many years of experience both as a master electrician and North Adams Firefighter. In his Fire Department experience he knows firsthand what can occur when improper wiring is completed. Both Joe and Rob share our department’s deep commitment to public safety and our desire to take a collaborative approach to all aspects of our responsibility.

These responsibilities are many and varied. Community Development is here to assist all members of the community throughout each stage of the development process. The Department partners three basic functions of town government that oversee development activities, the Building Officials, Board of Health and Health Inspector, and Planning and Land Use. All three basic functions of the Department work together to forward the goal of protecting both the town’s built and natural environment to ensure a safe, healthy, and thriving Williamstown. The State Building Code, Board of Health Regulations, The Wetlands and Rivers Protection Acts, as well as the Town’s Zoning Bylaw, Sign Bylaw and Subdivision Regulations are all enforced by the Department and the various volunteer community boards that the Department works with in order to achieve this goal. Below are reports from the Department’s Building Officials and Planner. Reports

concerning the many different Boards and Commissions the Department works with are separate from this report.

BUILDING OFFICIALS

Ryan Contenta, Building Commissioner

Robert Rosier, Local Inspector

Joseph Beverly, Inspector of Wires

John “Jack” Haig, Inspector of Plumbing and Gas

2015 saw Williamstown’s Building Officials issue 639 Building Permits with an estimated construction dollar value of \$37,752,064. These range from small residential work such as replacement windows to new homes to major commercial construction projects. The Department continued to work closely throughout the year with Williams College on various projects. Sawyer Library was completely demolished during summer.



Weston Hall, a new dormitory on Stetson Court and The Log were all underway in 2015. Two of the most anticipated projects, the Cable Mills and Highland Woods housing developments also showed great progress this past year. The year closed with the Log completed and the remainder of these major projects close to completion.

In addition to reviewing permit applications and plans and inspecting ongoing projects, the Building Officials are responsible for performing annual reviews of certain public buildings throughout the community. 228 Buildings were inspected and received valid Certificates of Inspection in 2015. The Commonwealth requires that all establishments where alcoholic beverages are consumed to be inspected jointly by a Building Official and Fire Chief Pederchini. These inspections are done once a year and a valid inspection certificate is a requirement for an alcohol beverage license. This requirement helps to ensure your safety in the event of an emergency at any of the Williamstown’s liquor license holding establishments.

Your Williamstown Building Officials are dedicated individuals who strive to ensure that the built environment of Williamstown is a safe place to live, work, and enjoy. We wish you all a happy and safe 2016.

Williamstown Community Development <i>Building Officials</i> Building and Trades Permits Issued 2015	
New Single Family Houses	1
Solar Photovoltaic	19
Total Building Permits	639
Wire Permits	292
Plumbing Permits	138
Gas Permits	119

PLANNING AND LAND USE

Town Planner, Andrew Groff, AICP

The Planning and Land Use arm of the Community Development Department is responsible for the administration and enforcement for all of the land use regulations governing development in town and staff support for the Boards and Commissions that have permitting and regulatory responsibility for these laws and regulations.

A significant part of our work involves providing support to all members of the community who are investigating the possibility of changing how their land is used. When someone is researching potential development, whether the proposal is a small home addition or a large commercial building, the planner is generally the first town official you will see when undertaking a project. It is our job to help citizens make sense of these laws and regulations and ensure the permitting process is simple, fair and equitable for all stakeholders of any size project.

In addition to assisting the public with navigating the maze of Massachusetts land use law our office is responsible for the staff support, including research, analysis, and GIS mapping capabilities to five of Williamstown’s local boards and commissions. These capabilities also support many other initiatives ongoing in town including work on the Spruces Hazard Mitigation Grant project and work with the Public Works Department in planning for a future North Adams to Williamstown bike path. Both of these projects made significant progress throughout 2015. As the year closed the Spruces only had 10 residents remaining, all hoping to move to the soon to be completed Highland Woods. Additionally the bike path project was making significant headway with design underway by GPI Engineering of Wilmington, MA. We’re hoping to pursue more exciting initiatives in 2016 including acceptance into the State’s Complete Streets Program, working with the Massachusetts Housing Partnership on housing planning, and continuing to pursue pedestrian and streetscape improvements to Water Street.

The Boards and Commissions that we work with, along with a brief description of each board are;

- Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission is responsible for administration of the Massachusetts Wetlands and Rivers Protection Act (the “Wetlands Protection Act”); this legislation requires approval for activities that involve “digging, dredging, or altering” wetlands or areas near wetlands. The Commission also oversees the management of nine parcels of land owned by the Town which are dedicated to a variety of conservation and recreation goals. Meetings are held on second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. and are often preceded by site visits to assess field conditions for projects that are brought to the Commission through the Wetlands Act review process. The Planner attends all of the Commission’s meetings to provide staff support and also acts as the Conservation Agent, handling enforcement and other day to day issues of the Commission.

- Historical Commission

The Historical Commission reviews projects for compliance with the Demolition Delay Bylaw. The Planner reviews and processes these applications. The Commission meets on an as needed basis.

- Planning Board

The Planning Board is an elected Board, responsible for overseeing the long term land use patterns of Williamstown through the Zoning Bylaw, Subdivision Rules, and Master Planning process. The Planner is responsible for the review of all of all plans and permit applications that come before the Board and ensures they are complete and distributed to all interested parties. The Planner also provides significant time in staff support to the board. Working with individual members on research projects and possible zoning bylaw, and subdivision regulation amendments. The Planner is also responsible for the maintenance of the Board’s official maps and frequently updates the Board on important legislation and other planning issues.

- Sign Commission

The Sign Inspector is responsible for reviewing all sign applications and may issue any sign which fully complies with the Sign Bylaw; any deviation from the bylaw requires Sign Commission approval. The Sign Inspector is also the enforcing authority under the bylaw. Fines may be assessed under the non-criminal disposition provisions of the Code of the Town of Williamstown. The Sign Commission meets the 4th Thursday of every month.

- The Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board (ZBA) hears and decides petitions arising from the application of the Williamstown’s Zoning Bylaws. These petitions fall into four categories, Special Permits, Variances, Administrative Appeals, and Comprehensive Permits. The Planner is responsible for the review of all of the ZBA’s permit applications and ensures they are complete and distributed to all interested parties. Ensuring completion can involve plan review meetings with project stakeholders and other town officials. The Board meets on the third Thursday of every month.

These are all brief descriptions of each Board's responsibilities; please see each individual Board's report for a more in-depth description of all the business the Boards, Commissions and the our department have been working on for the past year.

HEALTH DEPT.

Jeffrey C. Kennedy, RS, Health Inspector

Although the numbers change from year to year, the narrative doesn't. It becomes important to keep the narrative because public health normally operates 'under the radar'; when things are going well, you're not supposed to notice. So, the narrative will remain primarily the same each year to remind the resident of the function of the Health Inspector, and the Sealer of Weights and Measures.

Health inspection functions in Williamstown are mandated by State laws and regulations, and by local Board of Health regulations. The inspection and monitoring requirements are many, and include, but are not limited to, food establishments, bathing beaches, septic systems, private wells, housing, swimming pools, tanning facilities, refuse and recycling, manufactured housing communities, beaver control, recreational camps, and nuisances affecting the public health.

The Health Inspector for the town holds licenses as a Registered Sanitarian, a Soil Evaluator, and a Septic System Inspector. All licenses require a commitment for continuing education in the various aspects of their applicable disciplines. Registered Sanitarians are required to accrue 12 contact hours each year; Soil Evaluators and Septic System Inspector must accrue 10 hours every 3 years.

Did you know that over 10% of the boards of health in the United States are located in Massachusetts? Functions that in other states are handled at the state or county level are under the purview of local boards of health. Boards of health or their designated agents have the same responsibilities, and are required to perform the same duties no matter the size of their community. In rural western Massachusetts, boards and their agents do not have the luxury of specializing in certain aspects of a board of health's day-to-day responsibilities. They are general practitioners of public health. It's what makes public health in this side of the Commonwealth both interesting and challenging.

- In 2015 the Board of Health had 269 permits in its database.

Food Establishment inspections are performed on restaurants, cafeterias, dining facilities, bed and breakfasts, non-profit organizations serving an occasional meal for a fee or donation, and retail stores. Inspections look at food handling, facility infrastructure and equipment, and employee cleanliness and appearance. Efforts are made to work with the establishments to upgrade their facilities and improve practices, if needed, to insure patrons are getting a safe meal. New and upgraded establishments require that an application and plan are submitted for review. A schedule of all new equipment with specification sheets is also required.

- There are currently 86 (at the time of writing) establishments which undergo, at a minimum, annual or semi-annual inspection by the Health Inspector. Additional permits are issued to temporary establishments, which are inspected

as needed. Food Establishment numbers are changing throughout the year, as some establishments close their doors, and others try their hand at operating in the Town of Williamstown.

- A total of 152 inspections were conducted in 2015.

The Board of Health issues retail establishment licenses to individual vendors selling processed foods at a farmers' market. The Board of Health must assess the facilities available to the farmer's market, and prohibit any food-handling operation that cannot be safely performed. In addition, the Board of Health may prohibit the sale of certain food items if the items cannot be handled and maintained in accordance with 105 CMR 590.000 requirements.

- In 2015, the Board of Health issued 49 such licenses for various processed foods to be sold either at the Williamstown Farmers' Market and/or the Williamstown Holiday Farmers' Markets. These markets are inspected by the Health Inspector.

The Board of Health requires all rental units to have undergone an inspection within 12 months prior to occupancy by the current tenant. The units are inspected for compliance with 105 CMR 410.000 Minimum Standards of Fitness for Human Habitation, State Sanitary Code, Chapter II. Every unit that meets the standards is issued a Certificate of Compliance (CoC). Other conditions also apply, depending upon the length of tenancy. It appears that there was less tenant movement in 2012, therefore less inspections were performed. However various houses that are 'for sale' have been made rentals until such time as the dwelling is sold. In addition, complaint inspections, which are not part of the CoC database, were also performed, resulting in Orders to Correct being issued, and occasionally, filings in housing court.

- There are 812 dwelling units listed in the Rental Unit database. Some of these units may no longer be rental units through sale or conversion to condominium.
- 118 applications for inspection were received in 2015.

Every house without access to community water must have a private water supply approved by the Board of Health or its Agent. The Board requires that the proposed well is sited by a Professional Engineer or Registered Sanitarian to meet all safety setbacks, and is drilled by a Massachusetts registered well driller. Following drilling, water quality and quantity reports are submitted by the driller and/or property owner to the Board for review to determine that the supply is sufficient for the house, and meets chemical and bacterial standards. If all information is acceptable, a Certificate of Compliance is issued. A building permit for a new home will not be issued for homes on a private water supply until the Board issues a Well Certificate of Compliance. The Board of Health also requires most of this information for ANY well intended to supply water for ANY purpose. Many geo-thermal system wells have been permitted recently.

- Well permits issued in 2015 - 2.
- Total private wells drilled since 1992 regulation - 139

Every home without access to community sewer must have an on-site sewage disposal system that meets the requirements of 310 CMR 15.000, usually referred to as Title 5. Existing on-site systems must be inspected at time of sale or other title transfer, and failing systems or components must be upgraded to meet Title 5 standards. A new system starts with a soil evaluation (perk test) performed by a licensed Soil Evaluator and witnessed by the Board of Health. This insures that the on-site soils absorption system (leaching field) is correctly placed and sized for the home it services. A Professional Engineer or Registered Sanitarian will submit a design plan to the Board for review. Following review, if the plan meets the provisions of Title 5, and if a properly trained and licensed installer is contracted by the property owner, a permit to construct is issued. Inspections are conducted throughout the installation process by the Board and the designer to monitor compliance with the design plans. Any changes to the plans must be approved by the Board prior to implementation. If the system is constructed properly, and certificates of construction compliance are received by the Board from the engineer and installer, a Certificate of Compliance is issued for the system. Upgrades of failed existing system components are also evaluated for Title 5 compliance prior to installation. The Board of Health requires that all installers working in Williamstown must have attended a training course recognized by the Berkshire County Boards of Health Association and have satisfactorily passed the given exam. In addition, the Board requires that all new or upgraded septic tanks have an effluent filter installed at the tank outlet. This helps prevent field loss through system clogging due to inattention. In 2015 the Board of health passed regulations (effective January 1, 2015) requiring that the agent of the Board of Health witness all septic system inspections. This will help insure a consistent standard in applying various provisions of the Title5 regulation. The Board of Health is also requiring any inspections performed on vacant dwellings be re-inspected after occupancy. This will insure that a buyer is not buying a dwelling with a system that would normally fail if used would be issued an inspection pass because it was not in normal operating mode.

If a Title 5 Septic System Inspection show that systems have a garbage grinder and/or a water softener discharging into the system, property owners are now informed by letter that their system is in noncompliance, and are instructed to remove the garbage grinder, and discharge the water softener to a drywell. Failure to do so could result in a damaged septic system requiring costly replacement or repair.

- Title 5 Inspections witnessed in 2015 – 8
- Septic System permits issued in 2015 – 10
- Total Septic Systems in the Williamstown database – 572

Companies which haul septage are required to obtain permits from the Board of health in each town they serve. Haulers must keep a record of individual systems served, which is presented to the appropriate wastewater treatment plant. The plant forwards these records to the Board of Health, which keeps a database on how often each system is pumped. At times, these records will allow the Board to determine if an on-site system is functioning properly.

- Septage haulers permitted to operate in the Town of Williamstown – 6

The Board of Health from time to time examines all camps, motels, hotels, manufactured housing communities and cabins licensed by it and if, upon such examination, such camp, motel, hotel, manufactured housing community or cabin is found to be in an unsanitary condition, the Board may, after notice and a hearing, suspend or revoke such license.

- There are 11 motels, 2 hotels, and 2 manufactured housing communities in the Town of Williamstown.

Williamstown hosts many recreational camps for children each summer. Camps must meet the standards set down by the State in 105 CMR 430.000, Minimum Sanitation and Safety Standards for Recreational Camps for Children. Fortunately, most camps are operating on the Williams College campus, which has dormitories, dining facilities, and other infrastructure subject to periodic building and health inspections. The Board insures that camp staff and counselors have undergone criminal and sexual offender record checks, that campers and staff have appropriate medical checks, that a licensed physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner is contracted as a health care consultant, and that adequate medical staff and equipment are available to meet the campers' needs.

- In 2015, 10 recreational camps for children were held in Williamstown. Most of these camps held multiple sessions throughout the summer.

All public and semi-public (motels, condominiums, clubs, schools, institutions, etc.) pools and hot tubs/spas are required to be inspected at least annually. Inspections look at the design and construction of the pool, safety equipment and communication devices, first aid equipment, and water quality. All public and semi-public pools are required to have a Certified Pool Operator and perform inspections and water chemical testing at prescribed intervals.

- In 2015, 24 permits were issued for public and semi-public pools and hot tubs.

Margaret Lindley Park has the only authorized public bathing beach in Williamstown. Beach bacterial sampling of the impoundment water at Margaret Lindley Park is periodically tested from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and has always showed excellent results, well within standards set by the state (No single *E. coli* sample shall exceed 235 colonies per 100 ml. and the geometric mean of the most recent five *E. coli* samples within the same bathing season shall not exceed 126 colonies per 100 ml). This facility continues to be very popular with many people in North Berkshire County. In 2015 the swimming area was closed twice for individual counts exceeding state standards, but re-opened within days following acceptable additional sample results. Sampling of the beach water is performed weekly, and will continue as weekly sampling until 2 years of acceptable water quality results are recorded to insure water integrity.

- In 2015 the geometric mean established for the last 5 samples taken was – 5.27
- In 2015 the geometric mean for the entire bathing season was – 22.59

The Board of Health licenses and regulates through inspection the maintenance of safe and appropriate indoor air quality in ice skating rinks that utilize ice resurfacing

equipment powered by combustible fuels which produce carbon monoxide or nitrogen dioxide and thereby protect the health, safety and well-being of the public.

- The Williams College Lansing Chapman Rink is inspected annually, usually during the Bay State Games. Although the rink is primarily serviced with an electric ice resurfacing machine, it is still licensed and inspected because the seldom used back-up resurfacers is propane powered.

The Board of Health also regulates nuisances and noisome trades, and may restrict and/or prohibit any trade or employment, nuisances, sources of filth, injurious odors and potentials for sickness, which may endanger the public health, safety, or welfare of the inhabitants of the Town of Williamstown. Many nuisance complaints are received anonymously by telephone, but still require follow-up and inspection.

Refuse haulers operating in the Town of Williamstown must be permitted by the Board of Health, and must offer recycling services.

- Number of permitted Refuse Haulers in 2015 – 10

Williamstown has joined the Berkshire County Public Health Alliance to coordinate public health efforts on a larger scale and to assist in planning and implementation of public health functions to smaller communities.

- Since 1995, the Health Inspector has assisted other communities throughout the county by providing technical and physical assistance to those towns without a full time health agent. Although still available to assist other Boards of Health, the Health Alliance will provide that assistance in the future.

The Board of Health also oversees the duties of the Animal Inspector. Towards the end of 2015 the Williamstown Police Department assumed the Animal Control responsibilities, and the Animal Inspector responsibilities related to domestic animals and rabies control. The Health Inspector remained the Animal Inspector responsible for Stables and Livestock.

The Town of Williamstown has a very pro-active and involved public health program; there is much expected in this town of 7000 +. The Health Inspector continues to use federal, state and local regulations in a reasonable manner to insure the spirit and intent of each are used for the general maintenance and improvement of the community's public health needs.

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Jeffrey C. Kennedy

The Health Inspector, beginning in 2011, has assumed the position of Sealer of Weights and Measures, passing both the written and field test portions of certification. Additionally, there is a continuing education requirement for Certified Sealers. The Sealer attends meetings twice a year in Eastern Massachusetts. The meetings are hosted by the Massachusetts Weights and Measures Association.

The duties of the Sealer include:

Enforcement of, and compliance with, Massachusetts General Law chapter 98, sections 34 through 56D pertaining to weighing and measuring devices, including, but not limited to:

- Balances and Scales
- Weights
- Capacity Measures
- Liquid Measuring Devices
- Fuel Pumps
- Linear Measuring Devices

Collection of fees for each inspection performed, to be turned in to the Community Development Department for deposit with the Treasurer/Collector.

The accurate and timely submission of all reports required by state and local authorities.

Insuring all equipment is maintained and repaired, and that certification of weights and standards is accomplished when needed.

- In 2015, 52 gasoline and diesel pumps, 22 test weights and 22 scales were inspected and certified.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT COMMITTEE

Jane Patton, Chairman

The Community Preservation Act (CPA), adopted by the Town in 2002, permits Williamstown to address important community needs under the terms of the law, including:

- Acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation, and restoration of historic resources;
- Acquisition, creation, and preservation of open space;
- Creation, preservation, and support of affordable housing; and
- Acquisition of land for recreation and preservation of recreational resources.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts supplements funds that Williamstown raises directly through the CPA surcharge on real property taxes. The match was 100% for the first five years and then steadily declined as a direct result of the economic recession to a level as low as 25%. As a result of recent amendments to the CPA, there is every reason to believe that the match in future years will become substantially higher. The local Community Preservation Committee makes a recommendation to Town Meeting every year on how CPA revenues should be spent. The Committee's eight members consist of representatives from the Town's Conservation Commission, Finance Committee, Historical Commission, Housing Authority, Planning Board, Parks Commission, Town Manager, and an at-large community member.

The Committee held public information sessions and public meetings beginning in the fall in which applications were received and funding proposals were discussed. Ultimately, the following proposals were recommended for funding or other action by Town Meeting in May 2015 and were approved:

1. An amount of \$11,219 under the terms of the CPA, which funds will revert to the CPA if they are not expended by June 30, 2016, for historic resources purposes to fund a grant to the Williamstown Historical Museum to preserve, conserve, and exhibit carefully selected works of historical importance from its collection, and to perform ongoing curatorial research dedicated to the care of its collection, all in accordance with the application submitted to and recommended by the Community Preservation Committee;
2. An amount of \$15,400 under the terms of the CPA, which funds will revert to the CPA if they are not expended by June 30, 2016, for historic resources purposes to fund a grant to the Trustees of Reservations for the restoration of furniture and woodwork at Field Farm, all in accordance with the application submitted to and recommended by the Community Preservation Committee;
3. An amount of \$10,000 under the terms of the CPA, to meet the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for FY 2016;

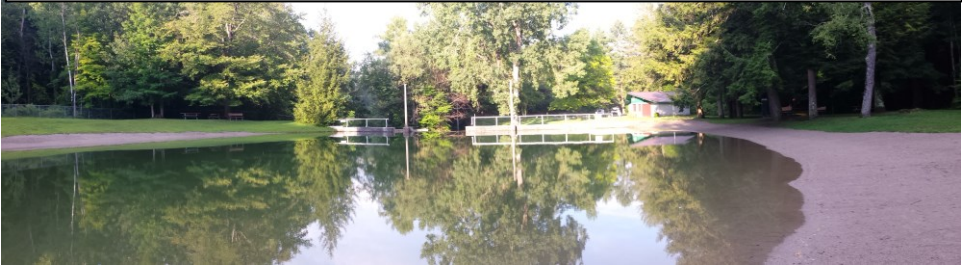
4. An amount of \$18,923 under the terms of the CPA, which funds will revert to the CPA if they are not expended by June 30, 2016, for open space purposes to fund a grant to Sands Springs Recreational Center, Inc., to improve water safety at Sands Springs in accordance with the application submitted to and recommended by the Community Preservation Committee.

In any given year the Committee anticipates receiving more worthwhile projects for consideration than can be responsibly advocated or funded. In addition, the Committee may choose to set aside certain amounts of available funds for future projects. Because of this, and to help guide its deliberations, the Committee has established a number of project investment criteria, which applicants must address, and encourages interested parties to read about the CPA and the investment criteria on the Town's website.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Dick Schlesinger, Chairman

Margaret Lindley Park, late afternoon, after an August rainstorm



The Conservation Commission is the citizen board responsible for the management of Town owned conservation lands and for the administration of the Massachusetts Wetlands and Rivers Protection Act. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. Site visits are often conducted prior to the public hearings so that the Commission members can better understand what is being proposed by the applicants, what specific wetland resources are in need of protection and how best to provide the protection.

In 2015, the Commission acted on 13 Requests for Determination of Applicability of the Wetlands Act to proposed projects. We also acted on 15 Notice of Intent applications for projects that clearly came under the jurisdiction of the Wetlands Act and for which we determined it was necessary to place Orders of Condition as to how the projects would be undertaken and managed to ensure the protection of wetlands resources. We issued 2 Enforcement Orders for improperly permitted work and 2 Emergency Certifications for beaver damage situations.

Town Meeting has placed 9 Town properties in the care and custody of the Commission. During the year, we took particular attention to Margaret Lindley Park where following work done in 2014 on the restoration of the bath house and well we began work on restoring the trail system by completing a new bridge on adjacent land owned by Pamela Weatherbee and Williamstown Rural Lands Foundation. Following the generous support of Rural Lands, the Rotary Club, and the Fields Pond Foundation as well as lots of volunteer labor, the bridge was completed in late September. Finally restoring a link lost to Hurricane Irene. 2016 will see further work to restore what was once a pleasant and family friendly trail system.

Volunteers hard at work on the new Hemlock Brook Bridge at Margaret Lindley Park



The Commission has also paid special attention to its land on Stone Hill this past year. Commissioners Robert Hatton and Richard Schlesinger completed a new hiking trail on Stone Hill, adding to an already excellent system. This was the catalyst for a continuing effort, led by Commissioner Hank Art, to create a unified system of trail names, signage, and blazes at Stone Hill in 2016. Celebrations on the new trail culminated in early October with a dedication ceremony to name the trail in honor of the former director of the Environmental Studies program at Williams, and long tenured University of Vermont faculty member, the late Carl Reidel. It was an honor to have Professor Reidel's family join the Commission for the dedication.

The Commission also bid farewell last year to long tenured Commissioner Sarah Gardner who accepted an appointment to a vacant Planning Board seat. Taking over Sarah's seat in early



Hank Art dedicating the new Reidel Trail



2016 is Stephanie Boyd. Current members of the Commission are Hank Art, Sarah Foehl, Robert Hatton, Philip McKnight, Nicholas Wright and Richard Schlesinger.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Brian O’Grady, Director



The Williamstown Council on Aging will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in December 2016! How things have changed since 1966! Back in those days, the original founders of the agency created an entity with two apparent purposes; to advocate for Williamstown seniors best interests and to provide programming, mostly social and recreational, for elders who wished to participate. The COA lived in the small building on Main Street which currently houses the Masonic Temple back then. I’m told the major activities were cards and pot luck

luncheons, trips and parties.

Truth be told, we still play cards, bingo and host pot luck luncheons. We have shown movies, offered guest speakers and hosted musical celebrations as well. We still advocate, we still care about people and we are here for everything good or bad just as our predecessors were. But the times have changed in fifty years. In 2015, we offered a variety of programs unheard of, unavailable or at least not offered to participants in 1966. Fifty years from now, our successors will be able to say the same thing. One thing is quite certain, new programs will come and go, technology will change some things and we’ll all use something like the current phrase “back in the day...” to describe what we do now. Back to the present. What did we do in 2015...let’s start with a few new adventures!

We successfully applied for a combination grant from the Tufts Health Plan Foundation and Massachusetts Elder Affairs to offer a program called “Aging Mastery”. This program, also known as “AMP”, is a cutting edge health and wellness program whose goal is to empower older adults to make and maintain small but impactful changes in health behaviors and subsequently on their lives. AMP was developed by the National Council on Aging with some assistance from the MetLife Foundation. The grant was awarded to Williamstown as the lead agency of a Northern Berkshire COA coalition offering the program regionally to Northern Berkshire seniors. We were one of 35 COA agencies within Massachusetts (and 7 of the 35 were our neighbors in the group, so I guess you could say were one of a select few) and 1 of a total of 60 across the entire United States to offer AMP. There are 15,000 COA/senior centers across the country and 349 within the Commonwealth; we are quite fortunate to receive this grant!

AMP was offered in two 12 week sessions, one in the spring and another in the fall. Our good friend Jennifer Muñoz led the program for us and gathered quality presenters to

offer programs on a wide spectrum of topics ranging from Sleep Quality, Healthy Eating and Money Management to name a few. We drew enthusiastic participants from across North Berkshire for both sessions and everyone who signed up as a participant graduated. We will offer this program again in 2016, likely in the late spring. Recognizing that falls are a significant cause of injury, un-necessary institutional placement and occasionally death, we collaborated with Maria Connors, Elder Services Healthy Living Program Coordinator, to offer two sets of Matter of Balance classes. Matter of Balance, or MOB in the world of acronyms, is an 8 week series of seminars designed to help seniors develop strategies to reduce the risk of falling and reduce the fear of falling which leads many to restrict their activities. It was developed at BU's Roybal Center and is widely cited as being effective in teaching participants to set goals for increased personal activity. We were pleased that folks we believed at risk for a fall participated in the class, and according to all reports, found it to have been valuable. With this in mind, we'll find a way to offer the class again in 2016.

As some of the services we lost when the local hospital was closed in 2014 slowly returned to the former North Adams Regional Hospital the stress on some of our friends to get to services in Bennington or Pittsfield waned. Still, there remained a need to get to points away from the Berkshires like Albany Med and Bay State for treatment and that seemed to have grown along the way. People without cars were still looking for a ride to these places so we joined with other COAs and community friends at Berkshire Rides and Community Action to facilitate travel to points away from home. We collaborated to create a program called "HINT" a contraction for Help I Need Transport. With a grant from CHP we're able to arrange rides for necessary treatments of all types in places other than locally for neighbors without cars. Pretty good eh?

We hosted bone scanning days with Lee Jaggi from Health New England. As we age, some of us suffer bone loss which can very silently creep up on you. Bone scans will tell you if you've suffered bone loss or are at risk and participants received a confidential report to share with their Doc. Yes, we offered this in the comfort of the senior center, a very low stress place to be. And, of course we offered snacks!

In the fall of 2015, we began a new adventure with Elder Services which will be beneficial to town seniors and their caregivers. Using funds from the Fund for Williamstown, in early December the Williamstown COA became a certified "Music and Memory" agency with Brian O'Grady and Marion Quinn-Jowett acquiring certification. It has been noted that music appears to have a positive impact on individuals afflicted with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias and potentially psychiatric disruptions as well. The idea is to work with families to construct music collections from the client's favorite era and store these personalized playlists on I-Pods. Music has a positive impact on the emotional center of a person's brain, calming chaotic brain activity and may lead to increased awareness. The program will launch formally early in 2016 so watch for it!

We weren't just about new journeys last year. The Williamstown COA has established a tried and true assortment of programs and services we deliver weekly, year in and year

out. Everything we do is driven by the simple goal of providing quality programs and services to enhance and sustain our friends' lives in the community so here's a partial list;

We all know that physical activity is crucial to health and we do our part. We offer three exercise classes to build bones and strength with Jane Jezouit and Karyn O'Toole, two yoga sessions to help stretch and strengthen muscles with Mary Edgerton and two balance enhancing Tai Chi classes with Youlin Shi, all of these are available weekly.

Thanks to the generosity of our friends at Williams, we can swim in their pool several days each week. It's Olympic sized, plenty of room to do laps. We strut through the neighborhood in walking groups or singular efforts-hey, our neighborhood is flat and great for walking-join us! Or park here and walk to the pool!

Food sustains us and we offer meals here at Harper five days weekly. Our friends at Elder Services deliver hot meals four days each week and I have to tell you that they have absolutely fabulous soups and the Mac and Cheese is delicious! Call our nutrition Program manager Pat Picard and tell her that you're coming for lunch. Yes, there is food on the fifth day, almost always on Tuesday, we prepare it here in the kitchen or on our grill-sometimes we order out for pizza. Every program is preceded by a meal-it's easier to concentrate when you have a full stomach right? We also support the St Patrick/St. Raphael food pantry with an ongoing collection-we're delivering shelf stable food to them every week. When you go to the grocery store and see all those BOGO items, remember us!

Learning about food and good nutrition is important as well and conversations with registered dietitians, programs involving food choices such as the "Healthy Eating" series are pretty routine here as well. We want you to be healthy and eat well!

And we did a bit of hands on health intervening. Two monthly clinics, foot care sessions with Serena Merrill and a monthly Blood Pressure clinic from our friends at Sweetbrook are routine, other events such as Flu Shot clinics with the folks at BVNA are scheduled annually.

Education is important to us and key to a healthy lifestyle. We hosted speakers on topics ranging from medication management to volunteerism to safe driving. Anything of interest is fair game here! We had informative yet fun speakers too. For example, Sarah Currie from the Williamstown Historical Museum came to visit us with artifacts from Williamstown's past, Melissa Morrison from Legacy Home Care came to host craft workshops and talked about their services, Sweetbrook's Kira Breard was a frequent guest with goodies and information and Mark Amero from Elder Services lead a discussion of bullying in the community.

Computers were available in 1966 if you were a sci-fi reader or watched Star Trek on TV. For most of us, it was all imaginary. Not in a senior center or anyone's home for that matter. Here in 2015, Elaine Keyes teaches computer skills to people of all skill

levels and brand of machine. Want to communicate with far away grandchildren or look at your great grandparents' hometown on Google Earth? Give us a call and we'll arrange it!

Yes, we play all sorts of cards, including Bridge and Bingo weekly too. Thanks to Genie Smith and Maggie Guiden for coordinating these efforts in 2015!

As you all know, not every program we offer is here at the Harper Center. Our BRTA sponsored van cruises the roads and by ways of North Berkshire bringing people to all sorts of places on all sorts of errands-doctor visits, therapy sessions, grocery shopping trips, yes, hair dressers and barber shops too. The van covered 17,758 miles last year-locally folks that is a lot of miles! We completed 7,450 separate trips including 2,852 medical rides and 1,733 for groceries-food is essential to life right? Those 7,450 trips represent individual rides, from one point to another. Total riders? About 205 different people used the van as a means of transportation last year. What would they do if there was no van? Jackie Lemieux is our principal van operator and David Larabee is her backup support. Oh! A note of great significance; Kathy Vareschi, our van operator for 16 years retired in July! So many memories and so many miles! Thanks for everything Kathy!

Our Outreach Worker, Marion Quinn-Jowett, averages 100 individual conversations monthly with local seniors covering lots of different topics. Sometimes it's just a wellness check with folks who may have been ill or who need some attention. She's helped with a myriad of issues-food stamp applications, insurance forms, and rental applications-all sorts of things! And speaking of insurance, our SHINE Counsellor, Peg Jenks, is available to help people with insurance related issues and whether it's a new senior signing up for Medicare or someone wanting to change their coverage, she can help. Call us!

We average 7,000 calls annually from people wanting information. Some of those calls are related to local programming like rides or bingo and recently we have received a lot of calls regarding housing, a topic we've become well versed in during the last couple years. We are quite adept at locating information pertinent to resources. No, we don't know everything but we'll tell you when we don't and make alternate suggestions. That is a service too. Most of our referrals and calls are from fairly local people. Our furthest information call this year came from Israel...you see? Everyone knows us! When you do call, and you will sooner or later, Heather DeMarsico is likely the first person you'll speak with. She's been with us for three years and can do a fair amount of information sharing herself, and since her arrival, has become an important member of our team.

We eliminated long running Saturday AARP Tax assistance slots and expanded Tuesday evening access. Still, we worried that we would lose people who only wanted to come on Saturday. Didn't happen. The program exceeded participation numbers over the preceding season.

We became a founding member of the Berkshire Age Friendly effort. Age Friendly is a global effort recognizing that the population of planet earth is aging. As the population

ages, we'll be needing to pay more attention to senior needs everywhere and we'll be looking to further redefine what it means to be older. The image used to be Grandma knitting in a rocker. No more. Now it's Grandpa running a marathon rocking to his iPod. The times have changed, forever. In Williamstown we have 7,833 residents, subtracting the 2,000 Williams students the permanent population is 5,833 of whom 2,851 are aged 50 or older. That is almost 49% of the population. In the Berkshires, since 2011 there have been more people over 65 than children under 18 in school. In December 2016, this number will be a national-yes, the entire United States-statistic. As people age, things change and so must we. Everything from civic planning to service delivery will change. Or be enhanced. It depends on how you choose to look at it. We're fortunate to live in a community which is inclusive and does operate with its citizens in mind. Others are not so lucky. You'll hear more about this next year for sure.

Speaking of positive aging, in May the Boston Post Cane, a 100 year old stick of African ebony wood topped with a golden knob traditionally awarded to the eldest resident by many New England towns, was passed to our eldest citizen Marion Davis Shaw. Marion has the unique distinction of being part of a couple, a husband and wife team, both of whom have held the Cane as our eldest citizen. I don't know that this has happened in any other place at any time in history. Her husband, Alex, was the Cane holder a while ago. Congratulations Marion!

The Town would also like to acknowledge Brian's receipt of the Council on Aging Director of the Year award. We are pleased to see Brian's tireless efforts on the behalf of the Williamstown seniors being acknowledged on the state level. Congratulations Brian!



DAVID & JOYCE MILNE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Pat McLeod, Library Director

www.milnelibrary.org

145,835 Items circulated
281,814 items owned (includes eBooks)
5,891 Active card holders
87,561 User visits last year
242 meeting room reservations
4,134 e-Book, e-audio and e-video downloads
32,240 Interlibrary loans

“The Library is one of my favorite things”

This year we decided to dedicate the Annual Report to our users, the people that have a love for reading, listening, surfing, emailing, browsing, learning, watching and much more. They are vital to us and they know that nothing could ever replace the Milne Library. Here is what our customers are telling us from a library Snapshot Day:

- “I come here to read the best books and save lots of money!” – a retiree
- ”I like reading and talking with the friendly librarians.” - A Williams College staffer
- “We like to have fun and hang out.” – a homeschooler
- “It is the best library in the Berkshires. I visit for research, take out books and CDs, and use the Internet. Although some improvements can be made, this is an outstanding library. It is comfortable, laid out well, well stocked, the computers are properly maintained and the staff is exceptionally friendly and knowledgeable.” – home business owner
- “My three children all love the library. It has everything from books to videos and now there are Xbox and Wii games. We all love coming to the library. The people here make you feel special and they do so much for the children.” – a mom
- “It is absolutely wonderful that the library can find the books for us, many are needed for our book club. We appreciate this happy “home” of books.” - book discussion groupie
- “Books I request come super-fast. The selection of books on CD is awesome. The staff is great. This is the best small library I’ve ever been to.” – out of town borrower
- “I use the library regularly. I consider this library to be a pivotal point of this community – senior citizen
- “We appreciate as a family all the services the library has to offer us for a minimal annual fee” – out of state user
- “ Love the freebie shelf, check it all the time for my Sunday school class” – church volunteer
- “I can’t live without our library. From the Botsford House to the Milne. Since 1958, I’ve been a devoted patron and volunteer.”
- “The Milne Public Library is a valued community resource, particularly for the young people of Northern Berkshire County. Our 5 year old daughter has enjoyed a wide range of activities developed by the library staff – from summer reading to story time to guest performances.” – a Father
- “It rocks! It is very cool! – a 13 year old

Those words really speak to the public library in Williamstown, every day we work to make your experiences special.

The library is working on a new Master Plan. A survey was conducted this past summer and revealed that we rated very high with our users. This plan will allow us to take a serious look at what our patrons needs are for all library programs and services and help guide us into the future:

Without walls, our catalog, and all items throughout the Commonwealth and beyond, are accessible anytime via interlibrary loan from the comfort of your home, office or dorm.

With the raw materials available at the library, our role is simple; to be a community connector. With the pace of technological advances, the library works hard to supply the needs of our users, both young and old. We are available to help you download free books, audiobooks, videos and magazines to your mobile devices. Do not forget our newly enhanced Wi-Fi capabilities throughout the building and grounds, and join us on our Facebook page to find out what is going on at the library on a daily basis.

Our favorite Guiding Eyes dog



The Friends of the Library -The Friends membership includes 385 households, mostly in Williamstown, who help support the library in numerous ways. The Friends is directed by a board of volunteers who meet monthly and benefits from the hard work of dozens of volunteers who help stage the annual two-day book sale at the elementary school in April. After a two-year occupancy at a house on Southworth Street provided through the generosity of Williams College, the Friends in 2015 moved collection and sorting operations for the book sale back to the library. Supported by its annual membership drive and the book sale, the Friends in 2015 was able to contribute more than \$21,000 toward technology, collections, the children's room and staff development at the Milne. The Friends fund non-operational needs at the Milne. The group's financial support does not keep the library running; it helps the library run better.

For more information about the Friends or to become a member, visit its website, www.milnelibraryfriends.org.

Youth Services - We've had a busy year in the children's department this past year. 42,219 items circulated from the children's department (including books, movies, audiobooks, music and toys) and we had 1,789 attendees at our programs. Our Summer Reading program was called Every Hero Has a Story, and we had a record number of children sign up this summer. In addition to musical guests and art projects relating to the theme, we also had a program on training service dogs.

We have begun hosting a Spanish story time once a month, which has been very successful. We also held a range of programs on topics including bats, learning how to do magic, chess, a visiting book illustrator, and various craft programs. We hosted a pajama drive for children in need across the state, and plan on doing so again this coming year.

There is new artwork by Michael Horwitz gracing the walls and display areas of the children's room in the form of prints and giant 3-dimensional cut-outs depicting goofy and fun animals. They really add a fun element to the children's room and are appreciated by library patrons both young and old.

Our collection continues to grow, and we are always on the lookout for the next great thing that kids will love. If you have suggestions, please let us know.



Magic Workshop for Children

Young Adult Services – In 2015, we continued to enrich the YA collection with many new and exciting books, including fiction, non-fiction, magazines and graphic novels. Our new video game collection (including games for XBOX 360, Play Station 3 & 4, Wii and WiiU) is circulating well, and we continue to expand this collection. The YA shelves are now very full, and we are pleased to be able to maintain a vibrant and interesting collection in a very small space.

We presented many programs for the teens and tweens during 2015. We partnered with WilliNet-TV, where kids were taught some of the techniques of shooting special effects for videos. We sponsored two “Zentangle” drawing programs, A “Making Comics” workshop, a multi-media arts program in conjunction with IS183, and an “Introduction to Ukulele” workshop which included teens, younger kids and adults. We also invited

the “Progressive Palette” in to facilitate a painting program, in which beautiful paintings were created by a dozen teens.

The teen summer reading program drew a small and enthusiastic group of readers. Lots of good books were read, and many prizes received by participating teens. We kept multiple copies of the Mt. Greylock required summer reading books on hand, so that they could be readily available to the students in middle and high school.



“Zentangle” Teens Program

Adult Programs

- Book Discussion Groups
- Jon Katz – author of *Saving Simon* and many bestsellers
- Caregiver Workshop
- Knitting in the Afternoon
- French Group
- Our “Books on Wheels” delivery program continues, staffed by a Library volunteer who delivers books to patrons who cannot get to the Library

English as a Second Language (ESL): We continue to act as a satellite classroom for ESL classes for MCLA. Two days a week students attend 3 hour classes to help them learn English, function in their workplaces and ideally have enabled a few immigrants to attain citizenship.

Goodwill Industries of the Berkshires and Southern Vermont is a library partner that help the Friends by removing the books that are not selected for the Book Sale and are able to sell or recycle those donations. Now the library has a Goodwill truck in the parking lot of the library every 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month. There is also a large bin for donations to Goodwill inside the front lobby. This partnership creates opportunities for individuals in the Berkshires to find and build skills, attain jobs, and support new beginnings.

Remember, librarians never go home – the library never sleeps with our digital branch open 24/7 at www.milnelibrary.org

You can access from our Digital Café which now includes:

- E-books for the Kindle, iPad or any tablet or e-reader
- Digital audiobooks to listen to on your digital devices
- Online language learning with over 100 languages and English as a Second Language called Transparent Language
- Downloadable videos
- Over 50 popular magazines on Zinio
- Art and musical instrument lessons via online videos and interaction with the instructors
- Online full text journal articles and newspapers.
- Access to an extensive collection of useful databases

All of these are available for your PC, laptop, e-reader, tablet, or smart phone.

The Library Board of Trustees - The last Annual Appeal raised \$34,135 from 354 household. The Trustees Fund supported 30 hours per week for the Buildings and Grounds attendant; they purchased an outdoor shed that houses all of our gas powered equipment. The Fund also paid for a land survey to help the Friends gain access to storage in the basement, and a new wooden CD Music display rack to help with our growing music collection.

Current slate of the Board of Trustees:

Rebecca Ohm – Chair

Charles Bonenti

Kathleen Schultze – Secretary

Katherine Myers – Friends Liaison

Karen Kowitz

Peter Mehlin – Treasurer

Bridget Spann

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Elaine Neely, Chair, and Michael Sussman, Vice Chair for 2015

The following citizens served on the Finance Committee during 2015: Susan Clarke, Paula Consolini, Suzanne Dewey, Charles Fox, Dan Gendron, Elizabeth Goodman, Doris Karampatsos, Elaine Neely, and Michael Sussman.

The Finance Committee recommended and the Annual Town Meeting approved on May 19, 2015, appropriations to fund Town services of \$21,881,279.00 for Fiscal Year 2016 (July 2015 – June 2016). The voted appropriations are an increase of 0.3% over the appropriations of FY 2015. Our Town Employees and Town Manager are to be commended again for their economical allocation and use of Town funds and their ability to maximize the value of each dollar spent on behalf of our Town. As a result of this budgetary discipline Williamstown currently has an unused levy capacity of \$1,032,864 (an amount we could use, if we chose to do so, which would result in an increase in taxes without an override vote); a free cash balance of \$906,185; a stabilization fund of \$1,609,684; and a Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund of \$300,000. Because of the refinancing of Town debt in 2015 at a significantly lower interest rate, total Town debt is at a historic low of 0.43 cents per \$1,000 valuation. Our Bond Rating was upgraded to AA1, one of the best in the State. This rating will have a positive effect on future borrowings.

A breakdown of appropriations approved to fund Town services, at the Annual Town Meeting on May 19, 2015 is as follows:

<u>Budget Category</u>	<u>FY 2015</u>	<u>FY 2016</u>	<u>% Change</u>
General Government Williamstown	\$6,889.967	\$7,062.232	+2.5%
Elementary School Mt. Greylock Regional	\$5,632,143	\$5,772,947	+2.50%
High School McCann Vocational	\$4,725,539	\$4,957,055	+4.90%
High School	\$292,610	\$206,751	-29.3%
Sewer Department	\$1,186,526	\$1,149,493	-3.1%
Water Department	\$813,374	\$914,010	+12.4%
Transfer Station Department	\$170,886	\$173,123	+1.3%
Capital Projects	\$801,980	\$740,000	-7.7%
Debt Service	\$445,338	\$402,877	-9.5%
Community Preservation + Debt	\$605,070	\$202,309	-66.6%
Fin Com Reserve Fund	\$75,000	\$75,000	0.0%
Chamber of Commerce	\$39,824	\$42,683	+7.18%
Youth Center	\$70,273	\$72,030	+2.5%

Compensated Balances			
Reserve Fund	-0-	\$10,000	+100.0%
Post Employment Benefits			
Liability Trust Fund	\$75,000	\$75,000	0.0%
Economic Development	-0-	\$16,000	+100.0%
Pay Prior Year Bill	-0-	\$9,769	+100.0%
Total	\$21,823,530	\$21,881,279	+0.3%

FOREST WARDEN

Richard F. Daniels Jr.

In 2015, the Forest Warden's Department issued burn permits from January 15 through April 30th. Some Agricultural burn permits were issued at other times throughout the year, as the weather permitted. The Department investigated smoke complaints and checked on permitted fires to insure compliance as well as extinguishing illegal fires. On more than one occasion, a response was needed to fight an out of control fire and perform a rescue involving an injured or lost hiker. The Department issued one hundred fifty-two (152) burn permits and responded to thirty-five (35) calls for service. A breakdown of these calls for service is as follows:

- 9 - Smoke complaints
- 13 - Illegal content / No permit issued
- 4 - Rescue calls for lost/injured hikers
 - These calls were generated from White Oaks, Berlin Mountain, Pine Cobble and Stone Hill
- 3 - Out of control fires
 - Two (2) Permitted fires got out of control, and one (1) fire started from sparks off of the wheels of a passing train
- 6 – Mutual Aid responses
 - We responded mutual aid to the Clarksburg State Forest for three (3) days, assisting with a forest fire that consumed 282 acres bordering Williamstown. We responded to North Adams to assist with a fire from the same train that caused our fire. We also assisted the Pownal Forest Warden with an illegal fire and helped the Williamstown Fire Department with a hay fire.
- 89 – Phone calls inquiring about burning and having camp fires.

As was the case over the past couple of years, this season was dry and windy at times making it difficult to issue burn permits due to safety. The State of Massachusetts issued six (6) and the Forest Warden issued eleven (11) red flag days which meant no outdoor fires of any kind.

The Williamstown Forest Wardens attended Fire Prevention Day in October as well as participating in Williamstown's Annual July 4th Parade.

All members train regularly, staying current in CPR/AED and First Responder certifications. One Department member is certified as National Red card; two (2) others are Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) and one (1) is a Paramedic.

The Forest Wardens Department Received a grant from The Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant 2015 for \$499.95 to purchase Magnum Back-Pack Blowers to aid in clearing leaves and small debris ahead of forest fires.

Forest Warden Personnel:

Forest Warden	Richard F. Daniels Jr.
Deputy Wardens	Michael Daniels, Military Leave
	Marcus Bottesi Jr.
	Peter Niemeyer
	Kevin O'Mara
	David Larabee
	Morissa Daniels
	Kevin Jolin
	Erika O'Mara
	Dawn Daniels

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Christopher Lemoine, Superintendent

A great deal of the department's resource, fore-sight, diligence and sweat equity was committed throughout 2015 to expedite the decommissioning of the Spruces Trailer Park. Crew members Robert Sweet, Peter Robare, Matt Gaffey, Kenny McAlpine and



Demolition of the Apartment House

Mike Haley dug their heels in and fully committed themselves to the project, completing the removal of over 100 trailers and associated driveways and trailer pads, along with the demolition and removal of the swimming pool, apartment and recreation hall buildings, resulting in large cost savings associated with the project. Without this effort, deadlines and budget restrictions would not have been satisfied. Committed to the project was the purchase of a military surplus 5 ton all-wheel drive dump truck

with 17,851 miles at a total cost of \$3,950.00. Original cost to the military for this truck was \$72,425.00. In the process, the department utilized excess clean fill from the Eastlawn Cemetery and DPW stock yards to replace all the excavated asphalt and concrete removed from the site, resulting in another large cost reduction related to the project and provided us with additional room in our stockyards which was becoming a rare commodity. The best word to describe this group's accomplishment is miraculous.

Within the 53 miles of Williamstown's road system multiple roadway construction projects were completed in calendar year 2015. Phase one Gale Road, started with replacing 60 year old galvanized storm drain pipe with high density polymer pipe, replacing all of the catch basins, full depth reclamation of 8/10s of a mile of roadway, grinding in and grading the existing asphalt as a base layer, then overlaying with binder and top layer asphalt. Full depth reclamation to 1.24 miles of North Hoosac Road from Cole Avenue to the North Adams line was completed in 2015. Again, the existing asphalt was ground and graded to create the new base layer then covered with the asphalt layers. This project was funded Chapter 90 Mass DOT State aid. Sections of West Main Street from Field Park to the Hemlock Brook Bridge along with McCauley Lane were milled smooth and overlaid with asphalt. Lindley Terrace,



Removal of the house debris

Porter Street and short White Oaks Road were overlaid with asphalt and will receive a chip seal treatment in 2016. Roadway preservation projects included the chip sealing of 3.2 miles of asphalt, performed on Brook, Henderson and White Oaks Roads. Crack

sealing was completed on Spring St, Walden St, Hoxsey St, Bulkley St, Whitman St, Syndicate Rd, a section of short North Hoosac and the rotary at Field Park.

Unlike this year, the winter of 14-15 was brutally cold with a great deal of precipitation. The DPW crew was dispatched 63 times to deal with unsafe road conditions. A tough winter physically for the crew, full of apprehension and sleep deprivation - the kind of thing you never get used to.

Asphalt emulsion seal coating was applied to the road system within Eastlawn Cemetery. Guardrails were replaced on Hancock Road. Nineteen catch basins were rebuilt and a culvert on Hopper Road, replaced. Masonry pointing was performed at the Sherman Memorial Chapel, and slate roof maintenance performed at the Town Hall and Sherman Memorial Chapel. Equipment updates involved the replacement of a 1996 John Deere tractor and sickle bar mower with a new Kubota tractor equipped with an over the rail mower and the replacement of a 2002 Ford F-450 dump truck equipped with a snowplow, with a new Ford F-550 dump truck equipped with snowplow and sander.

As always, I feel fortunate about being surrounded with a team of conscientious employees dedicated to their profession of keeping our road system, transfer station, cemeteries, parks and public buildings safe and in good repair.



HISTORICAL COMMISSION

William Barkin, Chairman

The commission acted on several items in 2015. They are as follows:

Mark Wilson, Project Manager – Trustees of Reservation, came to a meeting asking for support and endorsement by the commission for his request for funding from the Williamstown Community Preservation Committee (CPC) for work to be performed at Field Farm. He explained in great detail the history of Field Farm and the need for restoration work on the public interior woodwork and a few pieces of the Post-Modern furniture. He stated that a letter of support from the commission would greatly enhance his position when applying for funding before the CPC.

After further discussion, along with photo exhibits provided by Mr. Wilson, the commission voted by majority to authorize the chair to send a letter of support to the CPC. Commission member Sarah Currie recused herself from voting because as director of the Williamstown Historical Museum, she was also petitioning for funds from the CPC.

Next, James A. Art, Attorney, representing the new owners of 107 South Street asked the commission to waive consideration of the Town of Williamstown's *Section 24-4.B, Demolition Delay Bylaw* for the Pierson house on 107 South Street. He stated that the original dwelling was erected in 1882 but in the early 1950s the 2nd and 3rd floors were removed and extensive "modern" renovation was done to the interior. Mr. Art brought two pictures of the property to show the commission members. One was a photo of the property as it looked when originally constructed in 1882 and the second was the house as it appears today: a ranch style residence. Mr. Art said the new owners want to raze the present structure and build a new house. His appearance before the commission was to ask that the house be removed from the 100 year old town historic resource list and have the assessors change the date erected to 1950. The commission voted unanimously to allow demolition of the dwelling without delay.

Next, the commission discussed amending the Town's demo delay bylaws, those being Chapter 24-3 and Chapter 24-4(C)(2)&(3) to make for clearer definitions and to increase the time period for delaying demolition. The proposed revision would be added as a warrant article to be voted at town meeting in May 2015 and go into effect for FY 2016. The commission voted unanimously to request the Board of Selectmen to recommend adoption of a warrant article with the commission's revisions to the Code of the Town of Williamstown *Section 24-4.B, Demolition Delay Bylaw*.

Next, in conformance with the Code of the Town of Williamstown Section 24-4.B, Demolition Delay Bylaw, the Williamstown Historical Commission reviewed the following Requests for Predetermination: Williams College's Miller House and Siskind House located on Morley Drive to decide if said buildings were preferably preserved. James Art, Attorney, representing Williams College, provided pictures for the commission to familiarize themselves with the two properties. He said the College intended to move Miller house to a vacant lot on South Street owned by Maxymillian.

The biggest obstacle in that planned move was Siskind House – which blocked the way. Rita Coppola-Wallace of Williams College, said that Siskind House had been advertised since February 2015 in various media outlets. She said there had been some interest in the building but she was not sure if the structure could be saved. She also stated that Siskind House might prove to be difficult to re-use since it was renovated for office use and had many small cubicles. She reiterated that it had to be moved or demolished in order to save Miller House.

After further discussion it became clear to the commission members that there was no benefit in delaying demolition of Siskind House if there were no takers. It was agreed by all that the College had done its due diligence in advertising for the property and that invoking the demo delay would only stand in the way of moving Miller House during the small window of the summer and fall months. The commission voted unanimously not to invoke the provisions of Section 24-4.B of the Demolition Delay.

Next, in conformance with the Code of the Town of Williamstown Section 24-4.B, Demolition Delay Bylaw, the Williamstown Historical Commission reviewed the following Requests for Predetermination:

- **875 Oblong Road:** A request from Donald Toumey to dismantle an 1800 dwelling “...so that reassembly perhaps by others at a later date will be possible...once dismantled and labeled they will be stored in an adjacent barn.” (Applicant’s statement).
- **562-580 Main Street:** A request from Bettina Lehovec, et al., to demolish and dispose of five residences at said address.

Commission member William Barkin noted that a letter from Mr. Toumey stated that the dwelling, after it was disassembled, would not be rebuilt on the property at a later date but stored in a barn. Tom Greenwood, representing Donald Toumey, gave an overview of the project and noted to the commission members that the property owner was respectful of the history of said structure and was spending considerable personal funds on the project in order to retain this historical building. He also explained that Oblong Road was too narrow to move the house in any direction. He further stated that the disassembled residence would be placed in a dry safe barn for storage and that plans would be created for numbering the timber framing members, trusses, flooring boards, and planks for future reconstruction. He said the HVAC and plumbing system have failed and the owner does not want the building on his property since he has a much larger and modern dwelling sitting behind it. There were some questions from citizens in the audience with regard to re-use of the building at a later date. Mr. Greenwood said that Mr. Toumey would be advertising that the disassembled structure is for sale. He also explained that reconstruction would involve insulating the dwelling on the outside of the framing members – similar to what was currently taking place on the “1772” house on Main Street. Commission member Linda Conway suggested that the commission hold a site visit before rendering a decision to get a better idea of the structure and the work involved in allowing its removal. It was moved to continue the hearing until after a site visit. The field inspection was conducted on August 20th – all

commission members were present. The commission then held a public hearing on a Request for Predetermination on August 27th and moved to invoke the provisions of the Demolition Delay Bylaw on the property until September 15, 2015. Vote was carried unanimously.

The commission then briefly discussed the Lehovec proposal, noting the severe dilapidation of the structures. Andrew Groff, of Community Development, informed the members that only one structure was under the jurisdiction of the commission due to the fact that the remaining buildings were less than 100 years old. It was moved that the commission find the structures on the Lehovec property not preferably preserved and allow the demolition of said structures to go forth without delay. Vote was carried unanimously.

Submitted,
William Barkin, Chair

HOOSAC WATER QUALITY DISTRICT

Bradley O. Furlon, Chief Operator/District Manager

Hoosac Water Quality District Annual Report to Williamstown & North Adams Fiscal Year 2015

District Commission

K. Elaine Neely, Chairman-Williamstown Michael Canales, Vice Chairman-
North Adams Charles Schlesinger, Secretary – Williamstown
Timothy Lescarbeau, Member/Assistant Treasurer- North Adams

Chief Operator -Assistant Chief Operator –Treasurer Bradley O. Furlon, Chief
Operator/District Manager Mark J. DePonte, Assistant Chief Operator
John R. Gaffey, Treasurer

Narrative

The Hoosac Water Quality District (District), which serves the Town of Williamstown and the City of North Adams, treated a total of 1,265,229,000 gallons of raw sewage during

Fiscal Year 2015, which represents a decrease in flow of 166,515,000 gallons as compared to Fiscal Year 2014. In addition, the District treated 577,734 pounds of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and 762,874 pounds of Total Suspended Solids (TSS) in FY 2015.

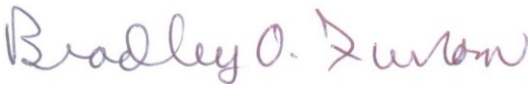
Some key highlights of FY 15 were:

- District personnel, which includes six licensed wastewater operators, continue to work tirelessly to ensure that every requirement included in the Consent Decree and NPDES permit is fulfilled. Reports are submitted to EPA and DEP regularly, which outline all actions being taken to ensure complete compliance.
- On March 31, 2015, as required by the District's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, the District submitted its full Collection System Operation and Maintenance Plan to both EPA and DEP.
- On April 30, 2015, the District's 20 year agreement with Syncarpha Massachusetts LLC., to purchase solar net metering credits, became active. This agreement will allow the District to save more than \$30,000 per year over the 20 years on their electrical costs. These total electrical savings for the 20 year term will be over \$645,000.
- In May 2015, the District renewed biosolids agreements with the Town of Pownal and The Town of Bennington, Vermont. Both agreements are for a 3 year term to compost the town's biosolids.
- The District's Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan (SPCC) was updated in June 2015.

- Since 1983, the District's compost facility continues to produce Type I compost as defined by the MADEP. About 4,495 yards of final compost was produced in FY15. During FY15, compost was made available to individual members of the local communities; however, the bulk of the compost was sold throughout the state of Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut and Vermont by a contracted vendor.
- Public interest in the District's facility is becoming more frequent. The District now has a website, www.hoosacwaterqualitydistrict.com, which gives an in depth description of the operations of the treatment facility. Additionally, tours are given regularly to local college students, local grade school students and the general public.

As always, we look forward to the challenges each year presents to us and remain committed to keeping our communities clean and safe.

Respectfully submitted for the District,



Bradley O. Furlon
Chief Operator/District Manager

MOUNT GREYLOCK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

School Year 2014-2015

STUDENT ENROLLMENT 550 FACULTY AND STAFF 95.3*

Rose P. Ellis, Ed.D, Superintendent (Retired December 31, 2015)

Gordon L. Noseworthy, Ed.D, Interim Superintendent

Mary MacDonald—Principal

Jacob Schutz—Assistant Principal

Mt. Greylock continued to move forward to support students with a rich curricular and co-curricular program. In addition to courses from the Program of Studies, eligible students enrolled in courses at Williams College, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and Berkshire Community College. Over eighty percent of the student body joined co-curricular activities, which range from athletic teams to performing arts to service programs. Mt. Greylock students have been formally recognized by Berkshire County schools and state organizations for their sportsmanship and willingness to put others before themselves. They strive to embody the characteristics that frame the Greylock Way – Integrity, Responsibility and Perseverance.

BUILDING PROJECT

After the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) brought Mt. Greylock into the pipeline to explore a building project, both Williamstown and Lanesborough unanimously approved the funds to support a feasibility study during a vote at their respective town meetings. The School Building Committee (SBC) secured the services of Dore and Whittier to act as Owner's Project Manager, and after a lengthy search, the SBC selected Design Partnership of Cambridge as its architect to develop a feasibility study. In the spring, educational visioning commenced, bringing together a diverse team of faculty, administration, students, parents and community members to assess Mt. Greylock's curriculum and instruction to develop an educational program around which a building would be designed. An extensive series of community forums and interactive discussions produced a building design that would support the education program into the future, attend to environmental concerns and be fiscally responsible. The SBC continued to work with the MSBA to address the next steps in building project process.

WILLIAMS COLLEGE

The College continues to support the school with the Williams College Fund for Mt. Greylock by providing grants for 21st Century teaching and learning, faculty professional development and the advancement of technology. This generous gift, available through June 2016, with plans for subsequent renewal, has significant school-wide impact. The Williams Center at Mt. Greylock brought more than 50 college students acting as teaching and writing fellows into classrooms, laboratories and after-school tutoring programs. Financial support for professional development expanded training for all teachers with writing across the curriculum and integration of digital technology.

MOUNT GREYLOCK REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT and STAFFING
STUDENT ENROLLMENT

YEAR	TOTALS	7	8	9	10	11	12	SP
14-15	554	97	106	91	86	81	87	2
13-14	581	104	93	87	89	94	112	2
12-13	565	91	87	92	92	117	82	4
11-12	585	90	91	88	116	89	107	4
10-11	602	90	105	120	94	106	80	7

EDUCATIONAL AND SUPPORT STAFFING (Full-Time Equivalents)

Faculty	45.4
Specialists (Nurse and Technology)	2
Special Education Teachers and Professional Support Staff	5.6
Paraprofessionals	17
Custodians/Cafeteria	8.6
TOTAL	78.6

*95.3 full staffing figure reflects faculty, staff, school administration and shared district administration.

STUDENT ACADEMIC SUCCESS 2014-2015

Mt. Greylock students continue to receive recognition for high academic achievements.

Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS): Mt. Greylock Level One School: In the spring of 2015, the students at Mt. Greylock were administered the MCAS and maintained the success seen in previous years in all categories; this accomplishment resulted in LEVEL ONE status. The composite average score across grades 7, 8, and 10 for the English/Language Arts exam indicate that 90% of our students performed at the advanced or proficient levels; this figure considers that 98% of 10th graders scored at those levels. Students from the same grades performed well on the mathematics test with a composite average score of 73% of all students performing at advanced or proficient; 90% of 10th graders scored at these levels. Students in grades 8 and 9 who were administered the Science and Engineering/Technology and Physics tests realized an average composite score of 64%, up 2% from the previous year.

Scholastic Aptitude Test: Sixty percent of the senior class took the SAT, achieving a three-test average of 1668. The state average is 1552 and the national average is 1490. The tests include Critical Reading, Mathematics, and Writing. Ten students, Christina Butcher, Emma Culver, Miranda Dils, Jake Foehl, Joseph Gais, William Nolan, Nyein Soe and Andrew Whitaker earned honors as National Merit Commended students.

Advanced Placement Scholarship: In 2014-2015, Mt. Greylock had three National Advanced Placement (AP) Scholar, 17 AP Scholars with Distinction, 6 AP Scholars with Honors, and 14 AP Scholars.

Four-Year Graduation Rates: In the annual Massachusetts report on the percentage of students graduating with four years of attendance from 2011-2015, Mt. Greylock had a 94% graduation rate. Ninety-three percent of the graduates planned to continue their education by enrolling in four- and two-year colleges. The 2015 class headed to over 40 different colleges and universities including: Bowdoin College, Dickinson College, Northeastern University, Middlebury College, Pitzer College, Princeton University, Roger Williams University, Vassar College, University of Vermont, Western New England University, Williams College, University of Massachusetts—Amherst, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, and Berkshire Community College.

FACULTY AWARDS

Middle School English teacher, Liza Barrett, was recognized with the Fifth Annual Berkshire County Educator Recognition Award.

Karen DuCharme, special education and Life Skills teacher, received the 2015 Reach the Stars Award from the Commonwealth's Executive Office of Health and Human Services.

The Classical Association of Massachusetts honored Latin teacher, Marjorie Keeley with an Excellence in Teaching Award.

Robert Thistle was awarded the James C. Kapteyn Award for Excellence in Teaching.

OUTREACH & STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The Wellness Committee, in collaboration with biology teacher Larry Bell, organized a Wellness Fair. Berkshire Medical Center sent a team of physicians to demonstrate robotic surgery techniques; local community agencies and service providers set up education stations for students and faculty.

The Middle School program, Students Organizing Change (SOC), organizes and sponsors dances, arranges community service projects and looks for ways to reach out to our school and greater communities. Last school year, SOC collected close to 500 items for a local food pantry, and donated to many causes including Mt. Greylock's Safe After Prom, the middle school picnic at Grafton Lake, and the 7th grade field trip to New York City's American Museum of Natural History.

The Great Day of Service in spring found Mt. Greylock High School students working beside Williams College students for the second year to clean out debris from the surrounding woods, weeding gardens, spreading mulch and hauling trash. Kaatje White organized this effort with the support of Jessica Casalinova, Crystal Williams, Nichole Russell and Jesse Wirtes.

Berkshire County District Attorney's Office Peer Leadership Program worked with fifteen 8th graders over the course of eight weeks. The program develops leadership and

mentoring skills; participants frequently apply those skills on teams, as student government representatives and as future peer team members. Ian Culnane and John O'Connor were admitted to the Youth Leadership Program, sponsored by the Berkshire County Chamber of Commerce. Maggie Rorke and Michael McCormack attended the New England Student Leadership Conference. The Governor's 2015 Project 351 is an initiative that unites diverse 8th graders from every city and town in the Commonwealth for an inspirational year of community service, leadership development, and enrichment. This year, four students were Service Ambassadors: Gabrielle Dery (Hancock), Lizzy Paglier (Lanesborough), Caroline Hadley (New Ashford) and Chloe Hughes (Williamstown).

FINE ARTS

Fine artists' and photographers' work was exhibited at the Mass MoCA Teen Invitational Art Show. The curated and judged exhibit featured students' artwork from Northern Berkshire high schools. The following students won "Certificates of Artistic Achievement" at the show: Angela Baumgartner, Sean Nemtzw, Kayla Cerveira, Taylor Hoffstedt, Kevin Aliberti, Anya Sheldon, Grace Smith, Emily Sabin, Alex Gilardi, Ailsa (Adam) May, Lilly Crolus, Sophie Gerry and Caroline Carlough.

Mt. Greylock fine artists' work was exhibited at the Milne Public Library for the month of May and Lanesborough Library later in the summer. Among the students showing work were: Taylor Hoffstedt, Eli Ostheimer, Maggie Rorke, Alex Gilardi, Lily Crolus, Anya Sheldon, Sophie Gerry, Grace Smith, Sarah Stripp, Sydney Gurek, Caroline Carlough, Donna Gregory, Emily Lescarbeau, Tristan Reinhard, Saige Sandifer, Jamie Thomas and Rachel Voller.

PERFORMING ARTS

As is typical at Mt. Greylock Regional School, the Performing Arts calendar showcased a variety of events. After a collaboration in the "Get Acquainted" concert, the middle and high school students each performed winter and spring band, orchestra, and choral concerts under the guidance of our Music Department Faculty of Lyndon Moors, Band Director, Ouisa Fohrhaltz, Orchestra Director, and Kate Caton, Choral Director. Members of the orchestra and band as well as the chorus also provided support at various school functions, including graduation.

Our high school choir auditioned and was selected for the second year in a row to participate in WGBY's Together in Song Series, which included many Massachusetts choirs of all categories.

For three weekends in January, LES, WES and MG collaborated on a second Tri-District Choral Festival, which included over 20 students from our three district schools. Thanks to the support of the Friends of the Arts and the SEE Fund, this choral project, which included singers from grades 4-8, was very well received. Kate Caton, Jackie Widun and James Bergin were the three collaborators of the project.

GreylockPlays, a student-managed quarterly concert series held midday continued into its second year. Produced by Colby Masse, this half-hour performances showcased students and faculty playing in a wide variety of genres. This year, Willinet broadcast the performances live and posted recordings to reach a wider audience.

Fourteen students developed a student-directed Glee Club. Practicing on Friday afternoons, the club enlisted the support of Daniel Potter, a Williams College student volunteer, to prepare a variety of pieces that took advantage of their vocal range.

Mt. Greylock student musicians competed for places in the Regional and State Music Festivals. Cameron Castonguay, Jesse Cohen, Mercer Greenwald, Eric Hirsch, and Jack Hydon participated in the Western Mass Senior District Music Festival in January. Students participating in March's Junior District Music Festival included Hallie Anderson, Rachel Bisson, Nima Darafshi, Josephine Gollin, Rose Gotlieb, Sophie Jones, Tara Kristensen, Karen McComish, Nathan Myers, Walker Niemeyer, and Morgan Nottke. In addition to competitions, our students provided instrumental and choral support for student theater productions, school community meetings and graduation. In May, our high school band inaugurated an outdoor performance series with two public concerts at Ramblewild in Lanesborough.

Complications with the auditorium required Mt. Greylock to take our theatre programs on the road. The annual Fall Festival of Shakespeare production, *The Winter's Tale*, directed by Josh McCabe and Lavina Jadhvani, found a home at Williamstown Elementary School and the Tina Packer Stage at Shakespeare & Co. in Lenox. Students rehearsed for two months and attended various classes with other local high school performers at Shakespeare & Co. focusing on stage combat, movement, technical theater and performance. The '62 Center for Theatre and Dance hosted the March musical production of *South Pacific* directed by Jeffrey Welch with musical direction from Lyndon Moors and Kate Caton and choreography from Ann-Marie Rodriguez. The spring drama, *Farewell, Farewell, Eugene*, was directed by senior Connor Hadley with faculty advisor Janean Laidlaw. Lanesborough School hosted the production. In addition, Friends of the Arts sponsored an after-school theater program specifically for middle school students once again. Under the direction of David Librizzi and Linda White, ten students were involved with the program and performed a humorous piece of their own creation called *Word Play* in mid-June.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

There were 17 different non-athletic co-curricular activities offered during the 2014-2015 school year, including performing arts opportunities, leadership opportunities, language associations, publications, community service groups, and other organizations designed to get Mt. Greylock students involved. More than 200 students took advantage of at least one of these opportunities.

In the beginning of the school year, the PEP Club organized a School Spirit Week and a PEP Rally. Students showed their pride, sang, danced, and had the chance to talk about their teams and organizations. They also helped advertise large events at the school and

had “Random Days of Spirit” throughout the year to keep students united and supporting each activity. The Junior Classical League (JCL) hosted the annual Kick-Off event with 400 students from all over Massachusetts. The event features large Catapults, Ballista, and Certamen Competitions. The Spanish Club held monthly recipe and food competitions to promote and teach students about the Spanish culture.

Multiple students created and edited *The Echo*, the student organized school newspaper each month for the community to read, and other students worked diligently all year to create the 100 page school yearbook with news stories, photographs, and events from the year. The Middle School Outing Club was a huge success. Monthly activities run by senior Thomas Schoorlemmer were well attended.

THE WILLIAMS CENTER AT MOUNT GREYLOCK

The partnership between the Williams College Center (WCC) at Mt. Greylock and the school continues to thrive. It supports myriad programs and initiatives, which develop and grow each year. Mt. Greylock’s relationship with the Williams Center impacts programs in writing, research, math, hands-on science, the arts, and after-school homework help. The Center for Learning in Action (CLiA) partnered teachers with college student assistants to develop and expand curriculum.

In December of 2014, the Williams’ math faculty again hosted a creative and innovative opportunity for Mt. Greylock 10th graders. MathBlast, in its fifth year, is a series of real-life math workshops taught by Williams faculty; it is organized to excite students about the world of math. Taking a cue from their colleagues, science faculty produced a ScienceBlast for 11th graders later in the spring. With organizational help from Williams College student Jeffrey Rubel, Williams faculty introduced juniors to subfields of study and careers in science.

An independent study program in Mandarin continued for interested students. Devised by a Williams professor, the program included two days a week of tutorial support from Williams College Asian Language majors. Field research was conducted in 8th grade and biology classes with the guidance and support of Williams faculty and staff. Mt. Greylock students benefited from working with guest artists visiting Williams who also made a trip to the regional school. Faculty and staff also offered their expertise as guest speakers for a variety of classes; they held discussions in English classes and presented during GreylockTalks.

Throughout the year, more than 50 college students worked with middle school and high school students in after-school tutoring sessions at the school. Mt. Greylock greatly values its higher education partner—Williams College.

STUDENT ATHLETICS

Mt. Greylock student athletes continue to excel both athletically and academically while representing their school well throughout Berkshire County. Of the 20 Varsity Programs hosted by the school, 20 earned MIAA Academic Excellence Honors during the 2014-2015 athletic seasons. Gold Honors were given to the 19 teams with an overall team

GPA above 3.0, while Silver Honors were awarded to one team with an average GPA of 2.5-3.0. Approximately half of the Mt. Greylock student-athletes each season maintained a GPA above 3.5 while actively participating on their athletic team. There were 363 students at Mt. Greylock that participated on a school athletic team this year, accounting for 66% of the total enrollment. Six Mt. Greylock athletes were honored by WBEC as being the MVP of their respective sport: Michael McCormack and Sarah Stripp (lacrosse), Will Nolan and Grace Smith (Nordic), Ian Brink (Baseball) and Lucy Barrett (Basketball). Lucy Barrett was also awarded the overall Female Athlete of the Year for Berkshire County. Multiple students were invited to attend various MIAA events and ceremonies. Cal Filson, Hope Willis, Ellie Williams, and Matthew Wiseman were selected to attend the MIAA Sportsmanship Summit at Gillette Stadium. Lucy Barrett, Laura Galib, Kelsey Orpin, and Miranda Voller were honored at the National Girls and Women in Sports Day convention at Faneuil Hall. Haley Reinhard was selected by the MIAA to attend the New England Student Leadership Conference at Stonehill College. The Berkshire County Athletic Directors hosted the third annual Berkshire County Leadership Summit on December 18th, 2014. Mt. Greylock attendees included, Brodie Altieri, Dagny Albano, Thomas Astle, Elizabeth Bernardy, Niki Dafafshi, Sophie Gerry, Mollyann Haskins, Adam Petricca, Maggie Rorke, and Patrick Storie. In addition, Lucy Barrett, Ian Brink, Cal Filson, Jake Foehl, David Majectich, Kelsey Orpin, Grace Smith, Carter Stripp, and Miranda Voller led sessions during the Summit. Middle School students Caroline Hadley, Alison Howard, Brooke Masse, Madison Ross, and Molly Shine attended a Leadership for Ladies event at MCLA.

Fall 2014: Six of the seven fall athletic teams participated in an MIAA Tournament event. The Mt. Greylock Boys Cross Country Team won their fourth consecutive Western Mass Championship Title and placed 4th in the State Championship Meet. The Girls Cross Country Team placed 3rd in the Western Mass Championship and two students qualified for states. The Golf Team also placed 3rd in the Western Mass Championship and Matthew Wiseman and Kyle Alvarez qualified for States. The Girls' Soccer Team was Western Mass Quarter-finalists, the Volleyball Team was Western Mass Semi-Finalists, and the Boys' Soccer Team reached the Western Mass Finals.

Winter 2014-2015: The Nordic Ski Teams continued their success as the boys' team won their 5th straight Massachusetts State Title and the girls placed 2nd. At the State Meet Matt Wiseman (5), Will Nolan(6), Jake Foehl (13), Tom Kirby(15), Grace Smith(4), and Sophie Gerry(12) all placed in the top 15. The Wrestling Team placed fourth in the Western Mass Team Championship. Devin Pelletier(1), Travis Hilchey(2), Alex Griffis(3), Hunter Abriel(4), Jude Rorke(4), and Robert Sutter(4) placed in the top 4 in their weight class qualifying them for the State Meet. At the State Meet, Devin Pelletier and Travis Hilchey placed 3rd, and Jude Rorke placed 5th in their respective weight classes. The Cooperative Hockey Team was Western Mass Finalists. The Cooperative Girls Swim Team placed 6th at the Western Mass Championship and 8th at the State Championship. Four Mt. Greylock students (Emma Whitney, Julia Whitney, Elizabeth Bernardy, and Elizabeth Bartlett) qualified for and competed in the Massachusetts State Meet. The Boys Basketball Team were Western Mass Quarter-Finalists.

Spring 2015: Seven of the eight spring athletic teams qualified for the MIAA Tournament. The Boys Baseball Team won the Western Mass Championship, and after winning the state semi-final, became the first baseball team in school history to play in a Massachusetts State Final. The Boys Tennis Team became Western Mass Champions and State Semi-Finalists, the team's third consecutive year playing in the Western Mass Final. Both the Boys' and Girls' Lacrosse Teams are in their fourth season and have qualified for tournaments every year. The girls' team finished as Central/West Quarterfinalists. The boys' team was a Central/Western Finalist. Michael McCormack was once again named to the US Lacrosse All American Team and became the all-time scoring leader in Massachusetts. The Girls' Track Team placed 17th in the Central/Western Mass Championship Meet and the Boys Track Team placed 23rd. The 4 x 800 relay team of Ella Dudley, Margo Smith, Niku Darafshi, and Laura Galib became Central/West Champions and placed 23rd at the All-State Meet. The Softball Team were Western Mass Quarterfinalists.

SUPPORTIVE PARENTS AND DYNAMIC COMMUNITIES

Parents and community volunteers continue to support the many activities and programs offered at Mt. Greylock. There was a successful and well-organized "After Prom 2015" event held for the graduating class and their guests. The industrious athletic booster clubs and extra-curricular organizations, including Friends of the Arts and the PTO, provided year-round support through many on-site fundraisers. The SEE Fund ran its annual Quiz Bowl to secure donations and recognized a constricted operating budget by extending its application process and pool of available funds.

Community organizations and business partners opened their doors to allow Mt. Greylock students to job shadow and complete internships and school-to-work programs. Donations of funds and services were abundant. Williams College, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and Berkshire Community College provided opportunities for Mt. Greylock students to enroll in credit-bearing courses.

Community members are invited to stay apprised of Mt. Greylock events and accomplishments by visiting the revised and expanding Mt. Greylock website at www.mgrhs.org or follow Twitter accounts, @MGMounties and @AthleticsMG.

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE CULTURAL COUNCIL
Jane Hudson and Holly Edwards, Williamstown Representatives

Annual Report: Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire
1/26/2016
Submitted by Jane Hudson, Williamstown Councilor

The Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire met on Dec. 2, 2015, to award grants to applicants from 11 communities including Williamstown. The total awarded this year was \$73,763.

The following projects were funded for Williamstown:

Milne Library, Pastel Paint.....	\$475
First Congregational Church, North County Chorale.....	\$800
Hoosic River, River Works.....	\$1000
Mount Greylock, Fall Festival.....	\$3600
Pine Cobble School, Clown Mask and Performance.....	\$1196
Pine Cobble School, Marafani African Drumming.....	\$750
St. John’s Episcopal, Summer Noontime Concerts.....	\$1000
Williamstown Elementary, Shakespeare and Co.....	\$2067
Williamstown Rural Lands, Sheep to Shawl Fest.....	\$500
Williamstown Theater Fest, WTF Community engagement.....	\$1334
Willinet, Meet and Potatoes.....	\$500
Youth Center, Nature Explorations.....	\$600
Ensemble Musica, St John’s Passion.....	\$1333
	<hr/> Total \$15,155

The percentage of the total allocated reflects the numbers of applicants from the other communities in the Council’s district.

Jane Hudson and Holly Edwards, CCNB, Williamstown

NORTHERN BERKSHIRES SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION

Tim Kaiser

Williamstown residents using the Transfer Station recycled 199 tons of paper and 102 tons of co-mingled containers. Nine tons of electronics (e-waste) was recycled through East Coast Electronics Recycling. A total of 340 tons of trash was compacted and 107 tons of bulky waste was sent for disposal. Williamstown Transfer Station had the highest recycling rate for 2015 of any District transfer station.

The Surplus Paint Program shipped eleven 55-gallon drums of latex paint, four cubic-yard boxes of oil-based paints and stains and one 55-gallon drum of spray paint at a cost of \$3,850. We have been collecting paint at the Williamstown Paint Shed since 1998 and have collected roughly the same amount of paint each year. However, the costs have risen each year. Faced with a program deficit a few years ago we instituted a \$2 per liquid gallon fee. Charging a fee to residents created a difficult situation that sometimes resulted in confrontation between residents and NBSWMD staff and volunteers. For this reason, last year we eliminated the fees and increased the assessment to our towns to meet the deficit.

A bill requiring paint manufacturers to pay the cost of surplus paint collection is before the Massachusetts Legislature. Paint manufacturers would be required to work with retail operations and municipal programs like ours to provide paint collection sites and funding for same.

The Transfer Station was inspected by Jan Ameen of Franklin County SWMD, fulfilling Department of Environmental Protection regulations requiring an annual inspection. The station was found to be in excellent operating condition. You may notice some new regulation signage.

Earth Machine Composters are available for \$50. Contact the District Office at 743-8208 to have one delivered to your home.

Disposal and recycling answers can be found on our website www.nbswmd.com or by calling the Solid Waste District Office at 413-743-8208.

Sandy Totter
Program Coordinator

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

James Brosnan, Superintendent

The Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District, McCann Technical School, students, faculty, and staff continued their record of noteworthy accomplishments in fiscal year 2015 and this report highlights some of these accomplishments.

Our mission is to graduate technically skilled, academically prepared, and socially responsible individuals ready to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Our mission and educational philosophy are implemented by adhering to the following core values:

Communication strengthens partnership development and teamwork.

Achievement is attained through a strong work ethic.

Respect from all guarantees a safe learning environment.

Ethics ensure a dedication to honesty and integrity.

During the last nineteen years we have witnessed a dramatic transformation in vocational technical education especially in our application of technology and STEM subjects. We are very proud of the academic and technical achievement of our students and as each succeeding class raises the bar of accomplishment, the next class seeks to surpass it. The integration of our technical and academic curriculum has prepared our graduates well for their future and we appreciate you, our member communities, for your support in making it happen.

The accomplishments of our students reflect the McCann culture of learning:

At the 2015 National Conference, for the first time in the history of the school, Samantha Dorwin, a junior machine technology major, earned a seat on the SkillsUSA national officer team as the 2015-2016 National Region One Vice-President.

Ms. Andrea Leal, business technology 2014, a sophomore at the College of Saint Rose in Albany, New York, is the BPA national postsecondary treasurer and joined us from London, UK via teleconference for a Business Professionals of America update.

The Class of 2015 became the twelfth class in a row to attain 100 percent competency determination on the MCAS tests.

Twenty-eight of the Class of 2015 earned the prestigious John and Abigail Adams Scholarship awarded through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for their academic record and MCAS achievement.

Our 115 2015 graduates saw 63% continue their education in a variety of colleges and universities, 34% enter the workforce and 3% proudly enter into military service.

The results of the spring 2015 MCAS test once again echoed the continuous progress of our students through their dedication and that of our terrific faculty. Once again McCann posted solid scores highlighted below.

GRADE 10 - ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS					
PERFORMANCE LEVEL	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
ADVANCED	14%	21%	15%	17%	25.7%
PROFICIENT	73%	67%	76%	77%	68.9%
NEEDS IMPROVEMENT	13%	11%	8%	6%	4.5%
FAILING	1%	0%	1%	1%	.7%

GRADE 10 - MATHEMATICS					
PERFORMANCE LEVEL	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
ADVANCED	41%	33%	35%	44%	32.35
PROFICIENT	37%	42%	39%	29%	46.25
NEEDS IMPROVEMENT	20%	23%	17%	24%	19.2%
FAILING	3%	3%	9%	3%	2.3%

GRADE 10 - SCIENCE AND TECH/ENG					
PERFORMANCE LEVEL	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
ADVANCED	11%	9%	13%	19%	11.3 %
PROFICIENT	64%	54%	53%	52%	63.7 %
NEEDS IMPROVEMENT	22%	30%	24%	27%	23.4 %
FAILING	3%	7%	9%	2%	1.6%

The McCann Athletics program continues to enjoy success in the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Association. We are very proud of our Football Team for claiming its first Western Mass Championship in the program’s history. The team went through its historic season undefeated until the State Semi-finals claiming its second league championship in as many years along the way. The rest of our sports programs had very successful seasons as well. Some key highlights were the Boys Soccer and

Boys Cross Country teams winning the State Vocational Championship, Shane Fuller scoring 100 points in soccer and 1000 points in basketball and signing a national letter of intent to St. Rose College, and the Baseball team winning the Tri-County League Championship.

The integration of educational technology into our programs continues to be a priority. We received a donation of Siemens' manufacturing design software that allowed our manufacturing students to access the most modern of industry standard software packages. The value of this donation is in the millions of dollars. Our recently renovated library added 70 laptops for student research and we expanded our bandwidth to accommodate more distance learning and communication applications. The addition of new computer numerical control machines with advanced Fanuk control systems ensured that we are able to meet the training standards of the Massachusetts Advanced Manufacturing requirements.

Community service projects continue to provide us with an excellent opportunity to allow our students to exhibit their skills and support community activities. The installation of a playground storage shed for the Cheshire Elementary School involved CAD and carpentry students. Our culinary students continue to support a number of area events including the Relay for Life and numerous county organizations. Our metal fabrication students made bicycle racks for the City of North Adams and a wind scoop for the Environmental Police ATV trailer, while our carpentry students completed repairs to the Clarksburg police station roof. Our National Honor Society students created a GA-GA pit for the Clarksburg School playground. Our SkillsUSA students volunteered with the Plunket School playground project, participated in the Buddy Walk of the Berkshires, and completed a painting project at the Louison House, as well as participating in a variety of other activities within the school and community.

McCann students continued their ongoing participation in SkillsUSA, a national organization with more than 300,000 members. It is a partnership of students, teachers and industry representatives working together to ensure America has a skilled work force. McCann is 100% member of SkillsUSA which has provided the opportunity for our students to earn scholarships, tools for their trade, opportunities for employment and awards in recognition of their accomplishments. At the 2015 SkillsUSA State Leadership Competition, McCann students earned gold medals in sheet metal at the high school level and dental assisting, medical assisting, and Job Interview at the postsecondary level. Silver medals were awarded to two high school students for the Costello Family Community Service Award, and to a postsecondary student in Job interview. Bronze medals were earned in 3-D Visualization & animation, Internetworking, technical computer applications, and welding at the high school level as well as Cosmetology at the post-secondary level. Additionally, for the third year in a row, a McCann student was elected to serve as a state officer, and two additional students were selected to serve as voting delegates at the national conference. At the 2015 National Conference, for the first time in the history of the school, a McCann student earned a seat on the SkillsUSA national officer team as the 2015-2016 National Region One Vice-President.

Business Professionals of America, BPA, is the leading CTSO (Career and Technical Student Organization) for students pursuing careers in business management, office administration, information technology and other related career fields. The mission of Business Professionals of America is to contribute to the preparation of a world-class workforce through the advancement of leadership, citizenship, academic, and technological skills. The Workplace Skills Assessment Program (WSAP) prepares students to succeed and assesses real-world business skills and problem solving abilities in finance, management, IT and computer applications. Students from our business and information technology departments have been participating in BPA since 2005. During this time, our students have earned numerous awards at state competitions and have qualified for the National Leadership Conference every year. McCann students have received awards at the State Leadership Conferences in finance, business administration, management information systems, digital communication and design, and management marketing communication events. McCann has continued to achieve finalist placements at the National level, the most recent being a top ten finish in Database Applications. Additionally, at the 2015 National Leadership Conference, a McCann student (Class of 2014) was elected to national office for a second term and will now be serving as the 2015-2016 Postsecondary Division National Secretary/Treasurer.

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is the leading provider of rigorous and innovative Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education curricular programs for middle and high schools across the U.S. Students enrolled in the program take as many as 4 four courses above and beyond their graduation requirements. Since its inception over 60% of participating students - over one hundred - have become eligible for between 3 and 9 transcribed college credits through Rochester Institute of Technology or New Hampshire Technical Institute as a result of their performance on the national engineering examination. In last year's PLTW cohort, 11 students achieved this eligibility.

The success of our student body continues to be measured by our 100% competency determination, high career placement, high college matriculation rate and technical expertise in national skills competitions.

The district continues to operate on sound financial management principals and incorporates technology in this process to ensure maximum benefit for all of our programming. At the end of the fiscal year we returned \$76,100.00 of unused transportation monies to our communities. The district continues to search out grants to support our educational funding to improve instructional services and vocational equipment.

We completed the renovation of our library which has created an open and technologically modern facility for our students and staff to conduct their research. We added laptops and other electronic reading devices and built a separate long distance learning center allowing for our students to connect globally with universities and companies simultaneously. We added new CNC milling machines and upgraded our

internal network. We also completed our new softball field which will be available for play in the spring of 2015.

The Career Vocational Technical Education, CVTE division of the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, DESE, in conjunction with the Office of School Accountability conducted a Coordinated Program Revue, CPR during the fall. The results of this audit confirmed that we were not only compliant in all areas but received noteworthy accolades for some of our best practice programming.

During the past two years, five of our faculty participated in the CVTE, DESE Vocational Curriculum Frameworks initiative which completed the revision of our 44 curriculum frameworks and the supporting career readiness, business and safety standards. This was a herculean task and we are proud of the significant contributions made by participating faculty members.

FY15 Budgeted Revenues	Original	Actual
City & Town Assessments		
Municipal Minimum	\$2,748,884.00	\$2,748,884.00
Capital	\$107,813.00	\$107,813.00
Transportation	\$202,403.00	\$202,403.00
Municipal Assessment	\$111,447.00	\$11,447.00
Ch. 71 Transportation	\$195,000.00	\$271,011.00
Ch. 70 General School Aid	\$4,629,241.00	\$4,609,241.00
Tuitions	\$682,802.00	\$699,922.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$10,241.00	\$10,241.00
State Bonus Aid		\$2,880.00
Total Revenue Received	\$8,687,831.00	\$8,763,842.00
Member City & Town Transportation Refunds		(\$76,100.00)
Misc. Revenue Balance to Surplus E & D		(\$0.00)
A/P Assessment Payable (Received in July)		\$0.00
	\$8,687,831.00	\$8,687,831.00

Source	Grant	Amount
(Federal Entitlement)		
Fed	Sped IDEA	\$111,034.00
Fed	Title I	\$125,745.00
Fed	Title II A	\$19,861.00
Fed	Perkins	\$72,480.00
Fed	Postsecondary Perkins	\$3,079.00
(Federal Grants Other)		
REAP		\$40,824.00

Perkins Instructional Equipment & Supplies	0.00
SP Voc Skills Training	0.00

(State Grants)

CIG vocational Equipment	\$43,303.00
SPED Academic Support	\$7,700.00
MA Cultural Council	\$845.00

(Competitive/Private)

Private	Olmsted	\$4,300.00
Private	BHG Wellness	\$2,000.00
Private	BCREB: Connecting Activities	\$1,500.00
Private	City of Chicopee Nurse Grant	\$2,821.00
Private	MA Life Science Center	\$18,448.00
Private	Rochester Institute	\$320.00
Private	MASS MoCA	\$700.00

TOTAL GRANTS \$498,630.00

11-5-2015

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

www.nbswmd.com

For Calendar Year 2015 tons of paper, glass, cans and plastic was slightly down with 905.64 tons recycled District-wide. The Town of Williamstown recycled 198.63 tons of paper and 102.13 tons of glass, cans and plastic at the Williamstown Transfer Station.

The District contracted with PSC/Stericycle for a one-day hazardous waste collection that was held on May 30, 2015 at the Adams DPW Yard at 92 North Summer Street in Adams. This location is central to the residents of our twelve member towns and we appreciate the Town of Adams allowing us the use of the property for that day. Residents from every member town, 157 households in all, took advantage of the opportunity to rid their homes of hazardous chemicals. The cost for this one day event was \$7,900. Peace of mind for residents: Priceless.

Twelve paint collections were held from June until the end of September. We shipped out 1100 gallons of latex paint, 928 gallons of oil-based stains, varnishes and paint, and two 55- gallon drums of spray paint at a cost of \$8,125. Bulk packing the latex and box packing the oil-based paints is a messy job. Special thanks to Toni Alizio, Mickey Biagini, and Rick Salvi for their volunteer efforts and hard work. Thanks also to the Cheshire, Hinsdale and Williamstown DPW crews who provide us with assistance and storage space for our machine and supplies.

We began the Paint Program in 1998 to meet a need. It is now consuming more and more of our program budget. We are currently working with Paint Care (paint manufacturers group), the Product Stewardship Institute and Massachusetts Product Stewardship Committee to pass legislation that would have the paint manufacturers pay for paint collection, either at retail stores or municipal transfer stations. As this is written, Bill #S2109 has passed in the State Senate and is currently in the Mass. House Ways and Means Committee. We are actively advocating its passage.

This year NBSWMD filed grant applications and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection awarded "Small Initiative Grants" to every town in the District. The Commissioners voted to pool the grants and purchase a new shipping container for paper. This container will rotate among the towns and every town will benefit.

Cheshire, Williamstown and Windsor were again recognized and awarded additional funds under the Mass. DEP Recycling Dividends Program. This program awards points for achievements. Cheshire and Windsor received \$1200 to further enhance their recycling and solid waste programs. Williamstown was awarded \$1400.

The waste stream continues to evolve and our programs will continue to evolve as well. Our efforts in the coming year will be aimed at collecting textiles, clothing and household linens, and keeping them out of the trash.

Earth machine compost bins are available from the District at cost, \$50 each. Call the District Office at 413-743-8208 to have one delivered to you.

Waste not, want not,

Sandy Totter, NBSWMD Program Coordinator

Tim Kaiser, NBSWMD Commissioner for the Town of Williamstown

PLANNING BOARD

Amy Jeschawitz, Chair

The Planning Board is an elected Board, responsible for overseeing the long term land use patterns of Williamstown through the Zoning Bylaw, Subdivision Rules, and Master Planning process. Comprised of five members the Board is chaired by Amy Jeschawitz, with additional members; Ann McCallum, Elizabeth McGowan, Carol Stein – Payne, and Chris Winters. Unfortunately Board member Carol Stein – Payne had to step down near the end of 2015. Sarah Gardner was appointed to fill Carol's seat on the Planning Board by a joint vote of the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen in November.

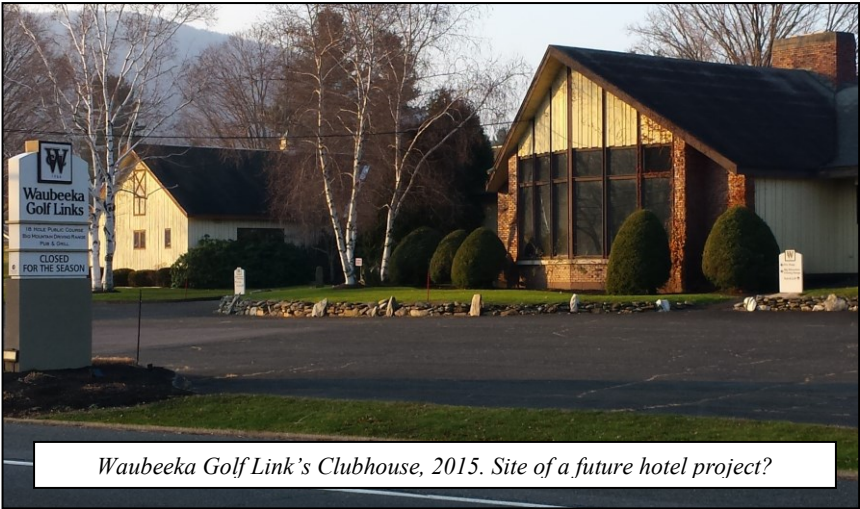
The Board in the first half of 2015 worked on some critically important changes to the Zoning Bylaw. Board member Chris Winters spearheaded an effort to research and create a comprehensive bylaw amendment dealing with the regulation of solar photovoltaic systems in the community. This regulation is important as these systems can have major impact at a utility scale size, but Massachusetts Law permits them without restriction in all communities. This leaves it up to local towns to determine system sizes, height restrictions, and coverage limits for such systems. The adoption by Town meeting of this bylaw not only protects our local neighborhoods from inappropriate solar development it preserves the community's right of appropriate solar access for a broad cross section of users.

2015 also saw the Board table discussions with Williams College on the concept of extending the Village Business district at the bottom of Spring Street. The College spent the remainder of 2015 researching, with a local citizen's committee, all possibilities for a proposed hotel in this location. It is expected that the Board will hear the results of this work in 2016.

Perhaps the most controversial item of discussion in 2015 for the Board was the topic of a potential resort hotel development at the Waubeeka Golf Links. The Board spent much of the final half of the year discussing this idea with owner Michael Deep, his attorney Stanley Parese, and many concerned members of the South Williamstown community. Despite extensive conversation the Board was unable to come to consensus on the issue and directed Mr. Deep to return with additional research on his concept. It is expected that the Board will resume this conversation if Mr. Deep chooses to return with additional information.

In addition to all of this work, the Board continues to pursue research into housing policy and housing strategies for Williamstown. The Board understands that this work has major implications for the recently completed *Economic Development Strategies for Williamstown* as well as Berkshire Regional Planning's *Sustainable Berkshires Regional Plan*. In order to keep this moving forward, the Board has pursued multiple planning grant opportunities. At the close of 2015, the Board was in discussions with the Massachusetts Housing Partnership on finalizing one possible grant. We hope there will be more positive news to report on this front in 2016.

Finally we want to take this opportunity to remind all our friends and neighbors that throughout 2016, the Planning Board will be meeting the second Tuesday of each month at 7 PM to discuss these and other important issues. We encourage the public to attend and discuss the present and future land use patterns of Williamstown, and how we grow, protect, and manage the fabric of our community.



Waubeeka Golf Link's Clubhouse, 2015. Site of a future hotel project?

WILLIAMSTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Kyle J. Johnson

The Police Chief oversees the Police Department, Communications Section, Forest Warden, and, effective as of July 2015, Animal Control. These departments are made up of a group of hard-working, dedicated professionals. Williamstown is very fortunate to have these professionals, and I would like to start this report by personally thanking them for their continued hard work, dedication and professionalism that they display each and every day. I would also like to thank the Community as well for their continued support of these departments.

The duties of the Police Chief include not only the responsibilities listed above but also all administrative functions within the Police Department, as well as covering vacant patrol and dispatch shifts as needed.

Administration / Personnel

Part-time officers Kyle Jolin, David Sherman and Scott Sherman, as well as part time dispatcher Wayne Buckley, left the Department to concentrate solely on their full time jobs in law enforcement in neighboring communities. There were no staff additions in 2015.

Communications Section

Our Communications Section of the Police Department is the heart and soul of the Department. These are the people behind the scenes, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, simultaneously performing a multitude of tasks and never getting the credit they truly deserve.

The Communications Section dispatches for the Williamstown Police, Williamstown Fire, Village Ambulance, and the Williamstown Forest Warden, as well as serving as the after-hours point of contact for both the Department of Public Works and the State Department of Transportation. The Communications Section also dispatches mutual aid requests for police, fire and EMS outside of Williamstown as well as monitoring any persons held in custody in either of the holding cells.

Calls for service are generated at the Communications Section in a variety of ways. They can be personnel initiated via the radio or the cruiser's Mobile Data Terminal (MDT), such as a patrol conducting a traffic stop or a building check. They can be by walk-in, such as a License to Carry (LTC) application or fingerprinting, or they may come in through phone calls to the business, emergency or 911 phone lines. The Communications Section is a State of Massachusetts Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP), answering:

- Eight (8) Emergency lines, receiving 1,912 calls in 2015: **911**
- Two (2) standard emergency lines, receiving 1,148 calls in 2015: **413-458-5646 & 413-458-0199**

- Four (4) business phone lines, receiving 24,279 calls in 2015: **413-458-5733, 413-458-5734, 413-458-4103 & 413-458-4105**

Please note that all cell calls placed to 911 from anywhere in Western Massachusetts go directly to the State Police Communications Section in Northampton, and are then rerouted to the appropriate agency by jurisdiction. Therefore, preprogramming your phone with one of the above standard emergency line phone numbers may speed up the call for assistance.

CALLS BY CATEGORY	2013	2014	2015
911 ABANDONED CALLS	60	66	86
911 TEST CALLS	61	65	86
911 WRONG NUMBER CALLS	27	25	40
911 HANG UP CALL	21	35	21
911 SILENT CALLS	20	14	29
911 OVERFLOW – ADAMS	4	2	3
911 OVERFLOW – NORTH ADAMS	23	32	30
ABANDONED MV	0	1	0
ALARM – BURGLAR	196	167	154
ALARM – OTHER	23	3	30
AMBULANCE CALL – WILLIAMSTOWN	1340	1494	1601
AMBULANCE CALL – HANCOCK	121	138	104
AMBULANCE CALL – MUTUAL AID	17	35	42
AMBULANCE CALLS – NEW ASHFORD	9	15	16
AMBULANCE CALLS – POWNAL	77	69	45
AMBULANCE TRANSFERS	1295	1188	1215
ANIMAL BITE (RECORDING STARTED 07/01/15)			7
ANIMAL CONTROL	281	317	341
ALARM PERMITS ISSUED	10	25	12
ALARM PERMIT RENEWALS	153	164	159
ASSAULT	17	5	2
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – DPW	63	66	54
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – FIRE	104	134	132
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – MUNICIPAL	6	10	4
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY	39	61	34
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – RMV	2	2	1
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – POLICE	84	84	74
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – UTILITY	19	57	71
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – WCSS	13	26	37
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY – REPO	3	5	8
BREAKING & ENTRY	36	27	22
B.O.L.O.	56	64	51
BOMB SCARE	0	1	1

BURN PERMIT	38	51	28
COMPUTER CRIMES	3	1	1
BUILDING CHECK	3019	2387	2522
DISTURBANCE	122	107	82
DISABLED MV	129	117	136
DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE	25	29	21
ESCORT / TRANSPORT	17	9	20
FIRE DISPATCH – WILLIAMSTOWN	324	280	310
FIRE DISPATCH – MUTUAL AID	7	7	12
FORGERY	1	1	0
FINGERPRINTING	46	80	47
FOREST WARDEN DISPATCH	33	25	35
GENERAL INFO	155	64	98
ILLEGAL DUMPING	8	6	3
JUVENILE OFFENSES	0	2	0
K9 REQUEST – WILLIAMSTOWN	7	3	7
K9 REQUESTS – OTHER AGENCY	20	9	5
LARCENY	213	143	131
LICENSE TO CARRY	135	67	40
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATION	14	16	30
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE	188	182	196
MISSING PERSON	17	11	6
MV LOCKOUT	154	151	118
MV ACCIDENT	215	228	224
MV STOP	1673	1618	1854
NARCOTICS INVEST	31	56	33
NOISE COMPLAINT	44	57	82
PARKING COMPLAINT	48	39	39
PERSONNEL COMPLAINT	0	5	1
PROPERTY DAMAGE	16	14	15
ANNOYING PHONE CALLS	30	14	13
PARKING CHECK	1404	1549	1698
POWER OUTAGE	13	12	14
PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST	106	152	127
FOUND / LOST PROPERTY	133	144	109
PUBLIC SERVICE	92	87	108

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENT	33	38	30
ROAD CONDITIONS	159	156	121
RAPE	2	0	2
SERVE RESTRAINING ORDER	19	20	9
SEXUAL ASSAULT	5	18	11
SUDDEN DEATH	9	5	2
SECTION 12	29	19	19
SEX OFFENSES	0	0	3
SHOPLIFTING	0	2	1
SUSPICIOUS MV	254	297	304
AUTO THEFT	1	1	1
SOLICITING	7	5	2
SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION	1	5	2
SPEED TRAILER ASSIGNMENT	4	4	14
SYSTEM TROUBLE	30	17	9
SERVE SUMMONS	109	106	91
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	407	409	372
THREATS / HARRASSMENT	45	42	32
TRAFFIC CONTROL	117	221	422
TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	267	228	229
TRESPASS	28	20	22
UNWANTED GUEST	14	12	13
VANDALISM	20	20	17
VIOLATION RESTRAINING ORDER	10	3	2
SERVE WARRANT	12	14	11
WELL-BEING CHECK	79	109	105
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE:	14321	13891	14523

In 2015, the Department received 24,279 incomings calls on the business lines and another 3,060 calls on the emergency or 911 lines. Of these, 14,523 required the above Calls for Service by Category, and below is the breakdown by shift:

2015 Calls for Service by Shift:

Shift	Calls
Days / 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.	7856
Evenings / 3 p.m. to 11 p.m.	4286
Nights / 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.	2381

Total Calls for Service	14523
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GRANTS

In 2015, the following grant money was awarded to the Communications Section of the Police Department. In most instances, the grants come with specific rules regarding implementation and they generally do not allow their use to supplant any portion of the operating budget.

Source	Purpose	Amount
State 911 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Support	Dispatch Equipment & Personnel Costs	\$25,892.00
State 911 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Training	EMD Training	\$19,974.00

Training

Training is a very important element for effective policing. Laws are constantly being created or updated, and technology is rapidly advancing in the world of law enforcement. There is a delicate balance between staying current, and sometimes even ahead of these changes, while working within the strict confines of a budget. The Police Department recognizes the importance of training, and every year all officers receive forty (40) hours of state mandated In-Service training through classroom sessions conducted by the Berkshire County Chiefs of Police Association, or online through various agencies such as the Municipal Police Training Committee, Massachusetts State Police or the Municipal Police Institute. Mandated topics in 2015 included: Legal Updates, Use of Force and Defensive Tactics, CPR, First Responder & AED, Human Trafficking and Dealing with Persons with Mental Illness. These training opportunities were held on various days in a north, central or south Berkshire locations from January through May, allowing many to attend while on shift to reduce overtime costs.

All Williamstown Police Officers are also certified Dispatchers, and therefore, all officers and civilian staff is mandated by the state to also receive sixteen (16) hours annually of In-Service training in the Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) field. Topics in 2015 included Domestic Violence and Disasters and the Dispatcher. Both trainings were provided by Power Phone, Inc. and held in Pittsfield.

We also conduct training within the Police Department, as well as for other agencies, with our own staff functioning as instructors. Within the department, Sgt. David Lemieux instructs the annual qualifications of handgun, long gun and electronic weapons at the firearms range. Locally, Officer Shuan William, a certified Stop Stick instructor, conducted a Tire Deflation class for the Great Barrington Police Department and neighboring PD's. Stop Sticks are a tool used by Law Enforcement to assist in bringing vehicle pursuits to a safe conclusion by puncturing the tires of the fleeing vehicle, and slowly releasing the air out. Officers were certified in the use of the Stop Sticks device through class room instruction followed by a practical portion that was

conducted at the Great Barrington Airport. During the practical portion, a vehicle pursuit was simulated and students were able to deploy a training unit to simulate the deflating of the fleeing vehicle's tires.

In addition to the in-service trainings and certifications, the following are some of the specialized trainings that were able to be attended:

MARCH:

Sergeant's Scott McGowan, Paul Thompson & David Lemieux participated in a tabletop exercise hosted by Williams College Safety & Security. The Massachusetts State Police, Berkshire Sheriff's Office, Village Ambulance and Williamstown Fire were also participants. The exercise simulated an emergency on campus.

APRIL:

Sgt. Paul Thompson attended a county-wide table top exercise based on a terrorist attack incident in the county.

Officer Shuan William attended training on COPLINK, a statewide database of police Records Management Systems (RMS) including mugshots and facial recognition, and CrimeNtel, a criminal intelligence database. Both programs are run by the State Police Commonwealth Fusion Center.

All employees completed their annual sixteen (16) hours of Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) training.

Sgt. Scott McGowan attended a four (4) hour training in Stockbridge on the new firearms laws in Massachusetts. This training was presented by the Municipal Police Institute.

MAY:

K9 Officer Mike Ziemba and partner Daisy attended the annual K9 Certification Seminar, hosted by the Massachusetts Police Work Dog Association (MPWDA).

JUNE:

Chief Kyle Johnson attended a week long Chiefs and Command Staff training, with topics including: Psychological Issues affecting Officers, Firearms Licensing, Work Related Injuries, Technology Pitfalls, Crowd Control, Officer Involved Shootings, Civil Rights and Ethics, Videotaping & Body Cameras, Liquor Law Enforcement, Use of Force Liability, Public Records and Internal Investigations.

Sgt. Paul Thompson & Officer Shuan William attended sixteen (16) hours of "Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate" (A.L.I.C.E.) training, a nationally recognized program designed to educate and instruct law enforcement responses to active threats within the schools. K9 Officer Mike Ziemba has been previously certified in this program and serves as the Police Department's lead instructor.

OCTOBER:

All officers completed their annual firearms training, qualifying in handgun, long gun and conducted electrical weapons.

Criminal Activity:

The Police Department successfully applied for five hundred and twelve (512) criminal charges against one hundred and thirty (130) individuals in 2015. Of these individuals, two (2) were juveniles. An additional sixteen (16) individuals were held in Protective Custody. The following is the category breakdown of criminal charges based upon the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS):

OFFENSES BY NIBRS CODE:	2013	2014	2015
KIDNAPPING / ABDUCTION	0	1	0
FORCIBLE RAPE / SODOMY	3	2	5
FORCIBLE FONDLING	1	0	0
ROBBERY	1	0	1
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	13	1	3
SIMPLE ASSAULT	36	17	19
INTIMIDATION	18	10	4
ARSON	0	1	3
BREAKING & ENTERING / BURGLARY	67	32	41
SHOPLIFTING	0	2	3
THEFT FROM A BUILDING	76	57	57
THEFT FROM A MV	4	0	0
ALL OTHER LARCENIES	118	90	49
MV THEFT	0	1	1
COUNTERFEITING / FORGERY	3	0	2
LARCENY BY FALSE PRETENSE	6	15	4
EMBEZZLEMENT	4	1	0
CREDIT CARD THEFT	0	1	1
IMPERSONATION	0	1	0
STOLEN PROPERTY OFFENSES	5	2	0
PROPERTY DESTRUCTION / VANDALISM	41	46	37
NARCOTIC VIOLATIONS	51	49	42
STATUTORY RAPE	2	0	4
PORNOGRAPHY / OBSCENE MATERIAL	0	2	0

WEAPONS VIOLATIONS	2	3	0
BAD CHECKS	9	4	8
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	23	10	6
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	11	13	13
FAMILY OFFENSES (NON-VIOLENT)	2	0	0
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	29	28	24
TRESPASS	17	8	4
ALL OTHER OFFENSES	57	59	30
TRAFFIC OFFENSES	142	140	151
TOTAL CRIMINAL CHARGES	741	596	512

Programs & Assignments

The Police Department continued its Community Policing approach throughout 2015, and will do so well into the future. Community Policing is a style of police work that puts heavy emphasis on partnering with the community and problem solving as many issues as possible that threaten to erode the quality of life within the community. A large emphasis is placed on the smaller, less obvious issues to help establish ways of dealing with them before they can become a source of erosion to the quality of life for the residents and visitors of our community. This is known as the “Broken Windows” theory. If a broken window is not fixed, then adjacent windows will be broken until the facade of the entire building is eroded. However, if this first window is maintained, the temptation to break other windows is reduced, and the building will stay intact. The “Building” in this theory is the community. Everyone knows that crimes such as drug offenses, assaults and larcenies are violations of the law and dealing with these issues falls under standard police work. The Community Policing philosophy tackles the smaller issues that tend to lead up to these more serious crimes in an effort to prevent them from occurring altogether.

- **A Safer Williamstown**

This program allows the Police Department to issue an informational brochure to all residents that apply for and receive either a Firearms Identification Card (FID) or a License to Carry (LTC) a firearm. The brochure focuses on safe gun storage, gun safety rules, and important points of law. Through a partnership with Project Child Safe, the Police Department is also able to distribute gun safety locks, free of charge, to all residents. Anyone in need of gun safety locks should call or stop by the Williamstown Police Department.

The issuance of the FID or LTC by the Police Department has been expedited by the Police Department implementing MIRCS (Massachusetts Instant Record Check System). MIRCS is a program implemented through the Criminal History Systems Board for online instant record checks, photos and fingerprinting for firearms licensing applicants. It improves efficiency in the licensing process by confirming data and fingerprint identification

immediately. This system allows for an electronic application process to reduce the delays caused by forwarding paper applications by mail. Sergeant Lemieux handles all applications, and generally new applicants and renewals can be performed between 4:00PM and 10:00PM when Sergeant Lemieux is on duty. Residents are encouraged to call just prior to coming to the station to check his availability.

- **Community Events Planning**

The Police Department stays busy directing traffic around numerous events throughout the year. These include the Williams College Graduation and the Alumni Parade on Main and Spring Streets, the annual Holiday Walk on Spring Street, Memorial and Independence Day Parades, Cal Ripken Parade, and numerous fund-raising road races that occur on town streets.

- **Intern Program**

The Williamstown Police Department continues to welcome students from high schools and colleges that have visions of pursuing a career in criminal justice. The intern program allows the students to shadow both the patrol and communications section to observe, as well as experience, where possible, the job first hand. In 2015, students interned from Community College of Vermont and Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.

- **Lock Box Program**

Through the partnership with the Council on Aging, special attention is focused on the senior citizens of Williamstown. This partnership focuses on quality of life issues, crime prevention measures and identity thefts and scams. One such initiative continued in 2015 included the purchase of numerous Lock Box units that are utilized to secure a spare key at an individual's home. In the event that a person may be locked inside their residence and is in need of emergency care, responding officers and/or emergency personnel can access the key from the Lock Box and make entry without causing any damage to the residence.

- **Noise Abatement Program**

The Noise Abatement Program has worked efficiently for the last ten (10) years. This program partners the Police Department with Williams College Campus Safety & Security, Williams College administration representatives, landlords who rent to off-campus students and the students themselves. The purpose of this collaboration is to make students aware of the quality of life issues within their neighborhoods and how they can help maintain them and still have a college related social life. Referred to as the "Three strikes program" by some students, this project advises students about the consequences of repetitive police response to off campus housing and the consequences to tenants and property owners. This program is coordinated by Williamstown Police Officer Shuan William and is overseen by Sgt. Paul Thompson.

- **Prescription Round-Up**

The Prescription Drop Box located in the police station lobby continues to be a valued tool for the community. The Police Department took in approximately 180 pounds of pills, ointments and liquid medications throughout the year in the drop box. The drop box is available 24/7 to the community as a safe alternative to dispose of unwanted, unused and expired medications.

***SHARPS ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTED ***

In 2015, those responsible for disposing of all sharps acquired through our sharp's drop box lost their resource to dispose of them, so unfortunately we can no longer accept any sharps at the Police Department. We are also unaware of any place that will currently accept them.

Animal Control

On July 1, 2015, the Williamstown Police Department officially took over all components of Animal Control after former Animal Control Officer (ACO), Jackie Lemieux, left to pursue other opportunities within the town. Animal calls have been commonplace and handled by the Police Department for years, as the ACO generally worked the Day shift, Monday through Friday, so the Police Department handled all animal calls on Eves, Nights, Weekend, Holidays and during the ACO vacations. Doing this role full time allows the Police Department to provide a better service due to consistency. Due to the July 1 date, the activity numbers are not an accurate representation for the entire calendar year.

Berkshire Law Enforcement Task Force (BLETF)

During the year of 2015, while assigned to the BLETF-DEU (Digital Evidence Unit), Officer Shuan William assisted in numerous investigations including, but not limited to Murder, Narcotic Violations, Sexual Assault, Child Pornography and Violent Crimes, along with the downloading of over 155 cellular telephones & similar electronic devices such as tablets and Global Positioning System (GPS) devices. The information and evidence gained from these electronic extractions have helped law enforcement put together successful criminal cases.

Since the implementation of the DEU three years ago, a growing number of towns from Berkshire County, along with the Massachusetts State Police have taken advantage of having a Digital Evidence Unit in the county. In 2015, the DEU processed over 280 cellular telephones along with over 45 computers. They have assisted in numerous investigations by assisting officers in authoring and obtaining the necessary search warrants in order to gain permission to search these electronic devices for evidence of a crime.

Officer William assisted Sergeant Scott McGowan in two large scale investigations by authoring search warrants for a suspect's cellular telephone communications and tower locations. The information obtained by these search warrants assisted in charging two separate individuals with Breaking & Entering related crimes.

In May of 2015, Officers assisted the BLETF in a search of Mount Greylock State Reservation, in an ongoing investigation into Lewis Lent. 18 cadaver dogs were deployed and accompanied by certified navigators and support searchers. In all, 90 people were involved in the 2-day search, from the New York State Police K9 Units and Troopers assigned to their Bureau of Investigations; Massachusetts State Police Detectives, Special Response Team, K9, Crime Scene Services, the Berkshire County Sheriff's Department, Massachusetts Environmental Police, Berkshire County Law Enforcement Task Force, Department of Conservation & Recreation and civilian volunteers.

In June of 2015, a bomb threat that was phoned into a local establishment. After a brief investigation by the Police Department with assistance from the Massachusetts State Police Bomb Squad, the bomb threat was deemed a hoax. A subsequent investigation conducted by Officer William involved the subpoenaing of all phone records related to the incident. This information assisted in identifying the owner of the phone. In speaking with the owner of the phone, it was determined that he and a friend (an employee of the local establishment) conspired to call in the bomb threat in an effort to get the employee out of work early. Both parties were charged with Making a False Bomb Threat.

Court

Court Officer Michael Ziemba works closely with both the District and Juvenile Courts to assist in the disposition of civil violations and the prosecution of criminal cases. Officer Ziemba works with both courts on a daily basis submitting paperwork, reviewing probable cause statements and signing complaints for issue. All criminal charges must be reviewed with the Clerk Magistrate to ensure probable cause is established for each charge sought. Once the complaint is issued, it may be held at the Clerk Magistrates level for a specific length of time under certain strict conditions and later dismissed if all of the specific conditions are met. A first time offender charged with a non-violent crime is a candidate for this diversion-type program. Other cases are forwarded to the District Attorney's Office for prosecution. Other court duties include monthly show-cause hearings determining responsibility involving civil motor vehicle infractions, along with the delivery of summonses to witnesses, victims and defendants. Detailed record keeping and data entry into the Police Department's record keeping system are also important functions of the Court Officer.

D.A.R.E. / ROPES

2015 saw the graduation of twelve (12) students from the Pine Cobble School D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program. Officer Tania Hernandez presents this course and also serves as a senior counselor for two weeks of summer ROPES (Respecting Other People; Encouraging Self Esteem) camp sponsored by the Williamstown, North Adams, Adams, Clarksburg and Cheshire Police Departments, North Adams and Florida Fire Departments, North Adams and Village Ambulance, North Adams School System, as well as the Berkshire County District Attorney's

Office. During 2015, approximately 190 youths attended and completed the ROPES camps with 26 residing in Williamstown.

Investigations

The Town of Williamstown is a safe community that allows for people to enjoy an excellent quality of life to work and live. Regrettably however, Williamstown is not immune from any crimes, or the persons that commit them.

Many of the incidents reported to the Williamstown Police Department throughout the year require uninterrupted attention. As a result, these serious cases make it unrealistic for a duty patrol officer to accomplish their investigation while handling the typical calls for service that the Police Department receives on a daily basis. Some investigations can take days, weeks or even months to complete.

Sergeant Scott McGowan was appointed the Police Department's investigator in 2007; a role he continues to serve in today. McGowan continues to maintain certifications for specific investigations which are not only essential for courtroom testimony, but in some instances they are mandatory.

In 2015 Sergeant Scott McGowan continued to process a variety of incidents including 132 larceny incidents, 22 breaking & entering reports and 16 sexual assaults. A number of larceny incidents in 2015 can be directly attributed to the heroin epidemic which continues to plague the entire region.

As in previous years, 2015 also saw the advancement of cases through the criminal justice system. One such significant incident investigated by Sergeant McGowan saw a Grand Jury return indictments for Breaking & Entering, Destruction of Property and Attempted Arson. In this particular case, an individual broke in to a Williamstown home and completely destroyed the interior causing over \$100,000 in damages. The individual also attempted to burn the home by setting fires in multiple locations. After an extensive investigation, Sergeant McGowan obtained an arrest warrant for the individual. This case is presently open in Berkshire Superior Court.

K-9 Program

The Williamstown K-9 Unit, Officer Michael Ziemba and canine Daisy, were requested to respond to multiple calls for service in and around Williamstown requiring tracks to be performed for suspects that had just committed a crime and fled on foot, persons who had indicated they wished to harm themselves and walked away, persons fleeing from a motor vehicle crash or stop, and lost or missing persons. Even in instances where a specific subject is not located, the tracks for suspects may provide vital information where evidence is found along the track, or ending in certain locations where motor vehicles were used to remove the suspect from the area.

The K-9 Unit also participated in public service events which covered a range of topics from numerous informative presentations on the role and use of the K-9 to school children of varying ages, informative presentations and question and answer sessions,

demonstrations at various local parades and block parties, and presentation of D.A.R.E. awards to students graduating from the program.

Training is a constant process for the K-9 Unit which, on average, logs approximately 12 hours each week. Most training is done locally in different scenarios in varying communities, usually in Adams, Williamstown or Lanesborough. Many times, training time is also spent with the Pittsfield Police Department and Berkshire County Sheriff's Department, both of which have K-9 Units and a certified Police K-9 Master Trainer.

Many local communities have recognized the benefit of having a certified K-9 Unit as part of the Police Department and have acquired similar programs. At the inception of Williamstown's K-9 program there were no grants that were offered to assist with expenses and startup costs, but that has now changed. Many local municipalities now have K-9 Units trained and responding to calls for service thus providing a greater coverage and a larger resource of K-9 responses, easing the burden on the existing K-9 Units in the area. Officer Ziemba has assisted with some of these new K-9's and their handlers by providing guidance as they start their respective programs.

To date, the new K-9 Units have selected either a Shepard or Lab canine, focusing training on tracking, article and/or narcotics detection and/or a patrol dog, leaving Williamstown's Daisy as the only bloodhound in all of Western Massachusetts. Bloodhounds are renowned for their scent tracking ability, and this is Daisy's only responsibility.

Daisy's day-to-day care and expenses are the sole responsibility of K-9 Handler, Officer Ziemba. Medical expenses are supported entirely by donations from the community.

School Safety

Based on current negative trends in today's society, extra precautions and vigilance are directed toward the several schools within the Williamstown Community. Each and every day, multiple randomly timed patrols are directed to the area of the schools, Williamstown Elementary, Pine Cobble and Mt. Greylock Regional High School, and the surrounding streets during the commutes to and from school and throughout the entire school day. While Williamstown is a safe community, the Police Department has dedicated much time to planning and preparing for a variety of serious school related events and scenarios. While we hope these tragic events that occur across the nation never become a reality here, training for them is unfortunately a necessity. Keeping the schools safe is a team effort and would not be possible without the full cooperation and communication between several agencies. These agencies consist primarily of educators and administrators of the Williamstown Elementary School, Mount Greylock Regional High School and Pine Cobble School, the Massachusetts State Police and the Williamstown Police Department.

To fully understand the topic of school safety and in an effort to stay current with national responses to same, Officer's Ziemba, William and Sgt. Thompson attended "Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate" (A.L.I.C.E.) training, a nationally

recognized program designed to educate and instruct Law Enforcement responses to active threats within the schools. This training is fact and statistic based and encourages a whole new way of addressing threats within the school, a drastic departure from the formerly accepted practices of simply locking students and staff into classrooms. The program also encourages attendance by school personnel and allows for law enforcement and school staff to take the curriculum practices back into the school for dissemination to the rest of the staff for implementation. This program, while more specifically designed for schools, can be adapted to assist businesses, nursing homes and areas that encourage larger congregations of people and, at request, can be presented to the public by the Police Department.

Officer Michael Ziemba is the lead A.L.I.C.E. presenter for the Police Department and the liaison to the schools as well. The Massachusetts State Police (MSP) School Safety Unit presents a similar version of A.L.I.C.E. which is primarily instructed by local Trooper Andrew Canata. Trooper Canata, along with Ziemba, work closely with the regional schools within the district to implement trainings and drills within the various schools. On occasion, Ziemba assists Canata with schools outside of Williamstown in the Northern Berkshire community. To date, the following institutions have been presented the A.L.I.C.E. program: Williamstown Elementary School, Mount Greylock Regional High School, Williamstown Youth Center, Pine Cobble School, and the Williamstown Commons.

Traffic Enforcement

Traffic enforcement is a significant portion of the Police Department's policing duties. The town is comprised of approximately eighty-six (86) miles of roadways, with the major routes being State Routes 2, 7, and 43. When officers are not answering calls or completing paperwork, they are conducting enforcement on all roadways. Of the 1,854 traffic stops conducted in 2015, these routes saw a majority of the enforcement:

Route 2 (Taconic Trail & Main Street): 513 stops resulting in 647 violations; Route 7 (New Ashford & Cold Spring Roads, North Street and Simonds Road): 560 stops resulting in 661 violations; Route 43 (Hancock & Green River Roads and Water Street): 199 stops resulting in 240 violations; North Hoosac, Bridges and Sand Springs Road corridor: 393 stops resulting in 473 violations.

Specific traffic complaints are received regularly at the Police Department. As cell phone technologies advance with improved reception, more motorists are calling to report the improper operation of other motorists. When possible, patrols are directed to these areas in an attempt to locate the specific motor vehicle. A second type of complaint commonly received is when a resident or group of residents in a specific neighborhood report speeding motor vehicles in a specific section of town. To assist in strategizing enforcement in these specific areas, the Police Department deploys the speed monitoring trailer to record the number of vehicles, speed, direction and time of day to allow for a more specific enforcement action. This trailer also serves as a deterrent as well by displaying both the posted road speed and the vehicle's, and then flashing red when the posted speed is exceeded. Two permanent speed monitoring signs

were donated to the Town in 2013 and installed on Route 43 (Water Street and Green River Road) to also serve as a deterrent to speeding motorists.

In 2015, the Police Department responded to one hundred ninety-two (192) motor vehicle crashes. Fortunately, most of these crashes were minor in nature and many occurred in parking lots or during on- street parking. From the more significant crashes, twenty-six (26) persons reported being injured and tragically there were two (2) fatalities from crashes on our roadways. Our thoughts and prayers are with those involved.

CRASH ACTIVITY SUMMARY	2013	2014	2015
FATAL MV CRASHES	2	1	2
PERSONAL INJURY CRASHES	26	41	26
CRASHES INVOLVING PEDESTRIANS	4	1	1
TOTAL MV CRASHES:	215	225	192

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	2013	2014	2015
CRIMINAL MV VIOLATIONS	134	135	153
CIVIL MV VIOLATIONS	277	284	337
WARNING MV VIOLATIONS	1633	1601	1837
TOTALS VIOLATIONS:	2044	2020	2327
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLE STOPS:	1673	1618	1854

PARKING ENFORCEMENT	2013	2014	2015
HANDICAP ZONE	8	5	13
PROHIBITED AREA	136	476	218
DOUBLE PARKING	3	2	0
ALL NIGHT PARKING	650	622	673
WITHIN 10' OF FIRE HYDRANT	2	5	3
ACROSS PRIVATE DRIVE / ROAD	1	2	3
WITHIN 20' OF INTERSECTION	4	1	1
UPON CROSSWALK / SIDEWALK	16	17	10
WRONG DIRECTION OR MORE THAN 12" FROM CURB	19	27	19
SNOW & ICE REMOVAL	3	1	2
UPON BRIDGE OR APPROACH	1	0	0
OVERTIME PARKING	1284	1108	1171

PARKING TICKETS ISSUED	2127	2266	2113
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NON-VEHICLE CITATIONS	2013	2014	2015
CIVIL POSSESSION OF ONE (1) OUNCE OR LESS OF MARIJUANA	44	56	35
UNLICENSED DOG	0	2	2
DOG RUNNING AT LARGE	13	25	17

SIGN COMMISSION

Timothy Hamilton, Chairman

The Town of Williamstown Sign Commission is tasked with administering the Code of the Town of Williamstown, Chapter 53, Signs (the Sign Bylaw), consistent with the character and appearance of the area for which the sign is requested. Signs may be of a permanent nature, (for new businesses, institutions or activities) or may be temporary for specific events or functions. Current Sign Commissioners are: Chair Timothy Hamilton, Anna Singleton, Stuart Armet, Lindsay Neathawk, and Kathy Thompson.

The Sign Inspector can issue any sign which fully complies with the Sign Bylaw; any deviation from the bylaw requires Sign Commission approval. In granting Special Permits, the Commission has wide discretion in what will be allowed or modified in the application. The Sign Inspector is the enforcing authority under the bylaw. Fines may be assessed under the non-criminal disposition provisions of the Code of the Town of Williamstown.

The Sign Bylaw, in its introduction, states:

- A. The Williamstown envisioned under this chapter is one with major patterns of use and general appearance little changed from today, but with greater opportunities within the community for a broader range of diversity of citizens and businesses; a town not only undamaged by change but made better through it.
- B. Economic growth appropriate to Williamstown's character is actively sought, not as an end to itself, but as a means of broadening the diversity of opportunity in Williamstown, in mm supporting a rich and diverse community life and population. There is room enough for all the development which realistically the town can expect to experience without the defacing of its special assets and places, including both natural and man-made features, mini vistas and historic monuments.
- C. The basic form of Williamstown is that of a classic New England town, with a strong central village sharply contrasting with and benefiting from the openness of the surrounding lands. The present arrangement works well for almost everyone. It provides wonderful living possibilities within easy walk of both central services and open lands. It organizes development in an easily serviced way. It creates a visually rich and satisfying community character.
- D. There is little doubt Williamstown residents intend the policies of the Sign Commission to enhance these qualities. Such conflicts within the community as the Sign Commission may encounter should be reconciled with this public vision in mind. It is instructed to use incentives and rewards wherever possible, as a way of implementing sign policy. However, the following guidelines are intended to be as clear and unambiguous as possible:
 - 1) The primary function of on-premise signs is to index the environment to tell people where they can find what. Selling is a subordinate purpose.
 - 2) Signs should be expressive of the individual proprietor's identity.

- 3) Signs should be appropriate to the type of activity to which they pertain.
 - 4) Signs should be compatible with the visual character of the area surrounding them. Carved signs are compatible in all areas, and this chapter encourages their use.
 - 5) Signs should be legible in the circumstances in which they are seen.
- E. Using its discretion, consistent with the bylaw, the Commission seeks to follow these guidelines in rendering its decisions.

In 2015, 89 sign permits were issued either by the Commission or its Sign Inspector, Andrew Groff. Out of these permits, 20 were for permanent signage and 69 were for temporary signs. The Commission also brought to Town Meeting several proposed changes to the Town Meeting, allowing for “open” flags and lit window signs as well as an expanded sandwich board law. All passed Town Meeting.

TOWN CLERK/BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Mary Courtney Kennedy, Town Clerk (Democrat)

Robert A. Jones, Registrar (Republican)

Mary Courtney Kennedy, Town Clerk (Democrat)

Robert A. Jones, Registrar (Republican)

Mark Windover, Registrar (Democrat)

Kurt Gabel, Registrar (Republican)

The Town Clerk's office serves as the repository of vital records for the town; conducts all activities related to the Annual Street Listing, voter registration, elections and town meeting, administers oaths to all public officials, issues dog licenses, provides notary public services, oversees employee and board members compliance with the Conflict of Interest law, and serves as the office of record for an assortment of public filings.

Total Registered Voters as of July 1, 2015 – 4,612

Democrats – 2,117

Republicans – 315

Unenrolled – 2,154

Green Rainbow -13

Green Party USA- 1

Libertarian –9

United Independent Party - 1

Socialist - 1

Conservative – 1

Dog Licenses Issued – 2015

Male	30
Female	19
Neutered Male	310
Spayed Female	334
Kennel License (4 dogs)	0
Kennel License (10 dogs)	2

Net Value of Licenses	\$3,908
Late Fees	\$ 370
Gross Value of Dog License	\$ 4,278

Vital Records Recorded in 2015

Births	16
Marriage Intentions	40
Marriage Licenses	41
Death	149

Documents and Permits issued in 2015:

Business Certificates -69

Fuel Storage Registration -20

Raffle Permits – 1

Certified Birth Certificates Issued -59

Certified Marriage Certificates Issued – 36

Certified Death Certificates Issued – 568

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

FISCAL YEAR

JULY 1, 2015 to JUNE 30, 2016

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Berkshire, ss:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Williamstown, in the County of Berkshire.

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Williamstown qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet at Williamstown Elementary School, 115 Church Street, in said Williamstown

TUESDAY, THE TWELVETH DAY OF MAY 2015 at SEVEN O'CLOCK A.M. for the following purpose: To bring their votes to the election of officers for the election of all Town Officers. The polls will be opened at 7:00 o'clock A.M. and will close at 8:00 o'clock P.M.

And furthermore to meet at Williamstown Elementary School, 115 Church Street, on TUESDAY, THE NINETEENTH DAY OF MAY 2015 AT SEVEN O'CLOCK P.M. for the following purpose:

To act on all Articles of this warrant, except Article 1, which has been acted upon at the above meeting for the election of officers.

Proceeding: The 2015 Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM. The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen read the list of all committee and board members whose terms were expiring.

The following awards were presented:

Community Chest Award – Williamstown Garden Club

League of Women Voters Employee of the Year Award –Town Manager Peter Fohlin

Faith Scarborough Award – Stanley Parese

The newly designed Town of Williamstown Flag was presented.

324 Residents checked into the Town Meeting.

ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICERS

Article 1. To choose one Selectmen for a three-year term; two Elementary School Committee (K-6) members for three-year terms; one Library Trustee for a three-year term; one Library Trustee for a two-year term; one Planning Board member for a five-year term; one Housing Authority member for a five-year term; and one Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School member for a three-year term.

REPORTS OF TOWN COMMITTEES

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager, and all other officers and committees, and act thereon.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to adopt Article 2. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 2 carried by unanimous voice vote.

TO APPLY UNRESERVED FUND BALANCE TO REDUCE THE TAX RATE

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of **\$375,000** from the General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance to reduce the tax rate, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$ 375,000 from the General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance to be used to reduce the tax rate. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 3 carried by unanimous voice vote.

APPROPRIATION FOR DEBT SERVICE

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds, the sum of **\$549,644** or any other sum, to pay interest and maturing debt, or take any other action in relation thereto.

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Year Borrowed</u>	<u>Years Remaining</u>	<u>Initial Principal</u>	<u>FY2016 Principal and Interest</u>
DPW Garage	1997	2	1,800,000	\$100,550
Landfill Closure	1997	1	215,000	10,300
Sherman Chapel Repair	2001	4	132,800	8,111
Landfill Closure	2005	5	150,000	11,642
Elementary School	2005	10	4,200,000	272,274
Cable Mills	2015	10	1,102,961	146,767
				<hr/> \$549,644

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved and it was seconded, the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$394,766 from taxation and that \$8,111 be appropriated from the Sherman Burbank Memorial Fund and that \$146,767 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund to pay interest and maturing debt. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 4 carried by unanimous voice vote.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds, the sum of **\$7,062,232** or any other sum, to pay interest and maturing debt, and for charges, expenses and outlays of the several Town Departments, namely:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 2015</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 2016</u>
Executive	\$276,771	\$293,836
Administration and Finance	1,878,576	1,928,642
Community Development	468,849	485,344
Public Safety	1,351,609	1,381,514
Public Works	2,045,235	2,077,474
Human Services	874,518	895,422
Total	<hr/> \$6,889,967	<hr/> \$7,062,232

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$6,855,692 from taxation; that \$117,081 be appropriated from Estimated Water Receipts; that \$82,219 be appropriated from Estimated Sewer Receipts; that \$2,000 be appropriated from Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust Fund; and that \$5,240 be appropriated from the Sherman Burbank Memorial Trust. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 5 carried by unanimous voice vote.

LOCAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS (GRADES K-6)

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, the sum of **\$5,772,947** to pay charges, expenses and outlays of the School Department for the ensuing year or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,772,947 from taxation to pay charges, expenses and outlays of the School Department. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 6 carried by unanimous voice vote.

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, the sum of **\$206,751** or any other sum, being Williamstown’s share of the Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District 2015-2016 fiscal budget, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Note: This is an Omnibus Budget, i.e. Town Meeting may vote only a total amount.

	<u>FY2015</u>	<u>FY2016</u>
Minimum Contribution	\$257,022	\$175,129
Transportation Assessment	8,096	5,325
Capital Assessment	<u>27,492</u>	<u>26,297</u>
Total	\$292,610	\$206,751

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$206,751 from taxation to pay Williamstown’s share of the Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District 2015-2016 budget. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 7 carried by unanimous voice vote.

MOUNT GREYLOCK REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, the sum of **\$4,957,055** or any other sum, being Williamstown’s share of the Mount Greylock Regional School District 2015-2016 fiscal budget, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Note: This is an Omnibus Budget, i.e. Town Meeting may vote only a total amount.

	<u>FY15</u>	<u>FY16</u>
Minimum Contribution	\$2,662,747	\$2,562,912
Transportation Assessment	122,906	138,885
Capital Assessment	11,030	0
Additional Foundation	<u>\$1,928,856</u>	<u>\$2,255,258</u>
Total Assessment	\$4,725,539	\$4,957,055

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,957,055 from taxation, being Williamstown's share of the Mount Greylock Regional School District 2015-2016 fiscal budget. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 8 carried by unanimous voice vote.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, the sum of **\$740,000** or any other sum, for the following capital expenditures, or take any other action in relation thereto.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Hall Street Sidewalk Replacement	Highway	\$29,000
Hancock Road Mill/Overlay	Highway	426,000
Mowing Tractor – 44%	Highway	55,000
Pick-up Truck Replacement	Highway	<u>50,000</u>
		\$560,000
Window Replacement	Library	\$15,000
Mowing Tractor Replacement – 28%	Sewer	\$35,000
Mechanical Sewer Rodder	Sewer	<u>15,000</u>
		\$50,000
Elm Street Water Main Replacement	Water	\$80,000
Mowing Tractor Replacement – 28%	Water	<u>35,000</u>
		\$115,000

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$575,000 from taxation, that \$115,000 be raised and appropriated from Estimated Water Receipts, and that \$50,000 be raised and appropriated from Estimated Sewer Receipts. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 9 carried by unanimous voice vote.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RESERVE FUND

Article 10 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$75,000** for the Finance Committee Reserve Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 for the Finance Committee Reserve Fund. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 10 carried by unanimous voice vote.

TRANSFER TO STABILIZATION FUND

Article 11 To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$750,000** from the General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance to the Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

M. G. L. Ch. 40 s. 5B requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote to pass this article.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$750,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance to the Stabilization Fund. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 11 carried by unanimous voice vote.

TO FUND OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance the sum of **\$75,000** to the Other Post Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund, established under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 32B, Section 20, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee recommends the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$75,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance to the OPEB Trust Fund. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 12 carried by unanimous voice vote.

APPROPRIATION TO COMPENSATED BALANCES RESERVE FUND

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance the sum of **\$10,000** to the Compensated Balances Reserve Fund, established under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 40 s. 13D, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance to Compensated Balances Reserve Fund. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 13 carried by unanimous voice vote.

WILLIAMSTOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to G.L. c. 40 § 6A to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$42,683** for the Williamstown Chamber of Commerce to

advertise the Town's resources, advantages, and attractions, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding, The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$42,683 for the Williamstown Chamber of Commerce to promote tourism. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 14 carried by unanimous voice vote.

WILLIAMSTOWN YOUTH CENTER

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$72,030** for the Williamstown Youth Center to provide youth recreation services, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$72,030 to support the Williamstown Youth Center to provide youth recreation services. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 15 carried by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC LIBRARY REVOLVING FUND

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to G.L. c. 44 § 53E½, to authorize the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of purchasing library supplies, services, and equipment, which fund shall be credited with receipts from all fees and fines collected under the authority and direction of the Library Trustees, such expenditures not to exceed Twenty-Five Thousand (\$25,000) Dollars, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to adopt Article 16. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 16 carried by unanimous voice vote.

SEWER DEPARTMENT

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Estimated Sewer Receipts the sum of **\$1,149,493** or any other sum, to pay interest and maturing debt, and for charges, expenses and outlays of the Sewer Department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,089,493 from Estimated Sewer Receipts and the sum of \$60,000 from Sewer Fund Unreserved Fund Balance. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 17 carried by unanimous voice vote.

WATER DEPARTMENT

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Estimated Water Receipts the sum of **\$914,010** or any other sum, to pay interest and maturing debt, and for charges, expenses and outlays of the Water Department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$864,010 from Estimated Water Receipts and the

sum of \$50,000 from Water Fund Unreserved Fund Balance. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 18 carried by unanimous voice vote.

WATER RATE

Article 19. To see if the Town will, in accordance with § 7, Chapter 606 of the Acts and Resolves of 1941, vote to approve a municipal water rate of **\$3.85** per 100 cubic feet of water as fixed by the Board of Selectmen at their meeting of April 13 to be effective July 1, 2015, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to approve a municipal water rate of \$3.85 per 100 cubic feet. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 19 carried by unanimous voice vote.

TRANSFER STATION DEPARTMENT

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Estimated Transfer Station Receipts or other available funds the sum of **\$173,123** or any other sum, to pay interest and maturing debt, and for charges, expenses and outlays of the Transfer Station Department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$143,123 from Estimated Transfer Station Receipts and \$30,000 from Transfer Station Unreserved Fund Balance. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 20 carried by unanimous voice vote.

CHAPTER 90 HIGHWAY FUNDS

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from Chapter 90 funds that are, or may become, available to the Town during the fiscal year for Capital Projects, and to authorize the Treasurer to borrow such amounts in anticipation of reimbursement by the Commonwealth, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to adopt Article 21. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 21 carried by unanimous voice vote.

TO PAY A PRIOR YEAR BILL

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$9,768.96** to pay a prior year bill from the City of Pittsfield for a Mount Greylock Regional School District student to attend Taconic High School in 2012-2013, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,768.96 to pay a prior year bill from the City of Pittsfield. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared article 22 carried by unanimous voice vote.

APPROPRIATION FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$23,000** to be expended by the Board of Selectmen for economic development, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,000 for economic development. Jeffrey Thomas, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee moved, and it was seconded, to amend the requested amount to \$16,000. The Moderator declared the amendment carried by unanimous voice vote. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 23, as amended, carried by unanimous voice vote.

ACCEPTANCE BY GIFT OF SPRUCES PROPERTY

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire on behalf of the Town, by gift, for general municipal purposes, a certain parcel of land containing approximately 4.20 acres, owned by one or more of the following parties: Spruces MHC LLC, which parcel is shown on the Williamstown Assessor's Map 111 as Parcel 025-000, and described in deeds recorded with the Northern Berkshire Registry of Deeds in Book 1069 Page 1014, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to adopt Article 24. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 24 carried by unanimous voice vote.

SOUTH CENTER SCHOOL LEASE

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease agreement in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c 30B s. 16 to lease the former South Center School located at 32 New Ashford Road with a portion of Assessor Parcel 30-313 upon which the building is situated for the purpose of storing, displaying, and preserving Town historic artifacts and documents, for a term of up to fifty years under terms and conditions satisfactory to the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to adopt Article 25. The Moderator pointed out a typographical error regarding the placement of the hyphen in Assessor Parcel number, which should read 303-13. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 25 carried by majority voice vote.

SPRUCES REVOLVING FUND

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to G.L. c. 44 § 53E½, to authorize the use of a revolving fund, for the purpose of operating and closing The Spruces Manufactured Housing Community, which fund shall be credited with receipts of all revenue, fines and fees collected during the operation of The Spruces, under the

authority and direction of the Board of Selectmen, such expenditures not to exceed One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000) Dollars, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to adopt Article 26. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 26 carried by unanimous voice vote.

AUTHORIZE STRUCTURED TAX AGREEMENT FOR GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATION

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 59 § 38H and c. 164, §1, or any other enabling authority, to approve, and authorize the Town Manager to negotiate and enter into a structured property tax agreement with SolarCity, Inc. or any successor lessee/operator of the solar photovoltaic energy generating facility to be installed on property located at 835 Simonds Road and shown on Assessors' Map 126 as parcel 90, for a certain sum and certain term of years and upon such terms and conditions as the Town Manager shall deem to be in the best interest of the Town; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to adopt Article 27. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 27 carried by majority voice vote.

AMENDMENT TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, §6 of the Code of the Town of Williamstown as follows:

§ 6-2 Composition and Tenure of Trustees

A. Establishment

There shall be a Board of Trustees consisting of at least five and no more than seven members who shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

B. Composition

One of the Trustees shall be a member of the Board of Selectmen, one a member of the Williamstown Affordable Housing Committee, and three to five residents who would bring to the Trust relevant experience and expertise, such as in real estate, housing, banking, fund raising, or the like. Nothing in this subsection shall prevent the Board of Selectmen from appointing the town manager as an ex-officio additional member, without the power to vote.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to adopt Article 28.

Selectmen Thomas Sheldon moved, and it was seconded, the following amendments to this article:

Amend 6-3 B1 (property transactions) to read "...approved by at least four-fifths of the voting members."

Amend 6-4 (meeting/quorum) to read: "A quorum at any meeting shall be a majority of the voting members"

Amend 6-5 (Acts of trustees) to delete "three or more" to read "A majority may exercise

any and all of the powers....”

Amend 6-13 (Amendment of Trust) to read “...approved by a least four-fifths of the voting members...”

Charles Fox proposed a “friendly amendment” that the math for the votes should be” four-sevenths of the voting member”. Mr. Sheldon clarified that the rationale behind the four-fifths of the voting members would mean 80% of the members of the Board, whether it was five, six or seven members. No further action was taken on Mr. Fox’s proposal. The Moderator then declared Article 28, as amended, as carried by unanimous voice vote.

CPA – COMMITTEE EXPENSES

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2015 Community Preservation budget, and to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to meet the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2016, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: Philip McKnight, Chairman of the Community Preservation Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2015 Community Preservation budget, and to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to meet the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2016. Mr. McKnight gave a brief outline of the structure of the Community Presentation Act. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 29 carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION – HISTORIC RESOURCES

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues, for historic resources purposes under the Community Preservation Act, the sum of Eleven Thousand Two Hundred Nineteen Dollars (**\$11,219**), which funds shall revert to the CPA fund if not expended by June 30, 2016, to fund a grant to the Williamstown Historical Museum to preserve, conserve, and exhibit carefully selected works of historical importance from their collection, and to perform ongoing curatorial research dedicated to the care of the collection, all in accordance with the application submitted to and recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Community Preservation Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues, for historic resources purposes under the Community Preservation Act, the sum of Eleven Thousand Two Hundred Nineteen Dollars (**\$11,219**), which funds shall revert to the CPA fund if not expended by June 30, 2016, to fund a grant to the Williamstown Historical Museum to preserve, conserve, and exhibit carefully selected works of historical importance from their collection, and to perform ongoing curatorial research dedicated to the care of the collection, all in

accordance with the application submitted to and recommended by the Community Preservation Committee. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 30 carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION – HISTORIC RESOURCES

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues, for historic resources purposes under the Community Preservation Act, the sum of Fifteen Thousand Four Hundred Dollars **(\$15,400)**, which funds shall revert to the CPA fund if not expended by June 30, 2016, to fund a grant to The Trustees of Reservations for the restoration of furniture and woodwork at Field Farm in accordance with the application submitted to and recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Community Preservation Committee moved, and it was seconded, the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues, for historic resources purposes under the Community Preservation Act, the sum of Fifteen Thousand Four Hundred Dollars **(\$15,400)**, which funds shall revert to the CPA fund if not expended by June 30, 2016, to fund a grant to The Trustees of Reservations for the restoration of furniture and woodwork at Field Farm in accordance with the application submitted to and recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, and I so move. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 31 carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION – OPEN SPACE/RECREATION

Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues, for open space purposes under the Community Preservation Act, the sum of Twenty Seven Thousand Two Hundred Seven Dollars **(\$27,207)**, which funds shall revert to the CPA fund if not expended by June 30, 2016, to fund a grant to Sand Springs Recreational Center, Inc. to improve accessibility and water safety at Sand Springs in accordance with the application submitted to and recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: The Moderator stated the correct amount for the article is \$18,923, which is the amount the Community Preservation Committee reviewed and approved and submitted for the warrant.

The Chairman of the Community Preservation Committee move, and it was seconded, the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues, for open space purposes under the Community Preservation Act, the sum of Eighteen Thousand, nine hundred and twenty three dollars. **(\$18,923)**, which funds shall revert to the CPA fund if not expended by June 30, 2016, to fund a grant to Sand Springs Recreational Center, Inc. to improve accessibility and water safety at Sand Springs in accordance with the application submitted to and recommended by the Community Preservation Committee. Following a short discussion, the Moderator declared Article 32 carried by majority voice vote.

SIGN BY-LAW AMENDMENT

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Williamstown Sign By-Law, §53 of the Code of the Town of Williamstown as follows:

§ 53-4.1.N Any illuminated window sign, with the exception of one “open” sign of constant illumination.

Proceeding: Timothy Hamilton, of the Sign Commission, moved and it was seconded the Town vote to adopt Article 33. Gordon Squire spoke in opposition to the article. Following a short discussion, the Moderator declared Article 33 carried by majority voice vote.

SIGN BY-LAW AMENDMENT

Article 34. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Williamstown Sign By-Law, §53 of the Code of the Town of Williamstown as follows:

§ 53-7.5 by deleting the phrase “Village Business District Portable Signs.” And replacing with “Portable Business Signs”

And Deleting “in the Village Business Zoning District”

And Deleting (A)(2) The signs shall be allowed only between May 1 and November 1.

And replacing with These permits shall be renewed on an annual basis.

Deleting (B)(1) The signs are allowed at establishments within the Village Business Zoning District as defined by Ch. 70 of the Code of the Town of Williamstown.

And renumbering the remaining section.

Proceeding: Timothy Hamilton, of the Sign Commission, moved and it was seconded the Town vote to adopt Article 34. Gordon Squire spoke in opposition to the article. Mr. Hamilton stated the signs would only be displayed when the business is open and they will be on the property of the business and not obstructing the public. There being no further discussion, the Moderator declared Article 34 carried by majority voice vote.

SIGN BY-LAW AMENDMENT

Article 35. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Williamstown Sign By-Law, §53 of the Code of the Town of Williamstown as follows:

Add § 53-3.3.G One flag type banner, pole mounted along a single edge of fabric, stating “Open”, “Sale”, or “Welcome”. Said excepted banner shall not exceed 18 square feet and shall not obstruct a public way, vehicular site lines, or other means of egress. Banner is permitted by right to be displayed during business hours only.

And renumber the remaining sections of § 53-3.3.

Delete the existing § 53-4.1.B and replace with;

Banners. Banners, except as provided for in Articles III & VII of this chapter.

Proceeding: Timothy Hamilton, of the Sign Commission, moved and it was seconded the Town vote to adopt Article 35. Gordon Squire spoke in opposition to the article.

There being no discussion, and following a voice vote that was not decisive, the Moderator declared Article 35 carried by a standing vote of 216 in favor and 53 opposed.

NON-CRIMINAL DISPOSITION MUNICIPAL BYLAW AMENDMENT

Article 36. To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 1, Article II, §1-5, Enforcing Official, as follows, or take any other action in relation thereto.

§1-5, change

Bylaw	Enforcing Official
Zoning Bylaw (Chapter 70) Development	Director of Community
Demolition Delay Bylaw (Chapter 24)	Director of Community Development

Proceeding: The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to adopt Article 36.
There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 36 carried by unanimous voice vote.

DEMOLITION DELAY BY-LAW AMENDMENT

Article 37. To see if the Town of Williamstown will amend the Demolition Delay Bylaw, Chapter 24-3 as follows;

Amend §24-3 Definitions as follows:

DELETE: DEMOLITION -- An act of pulling down, destroying, removing or razing a building or a portion of a building that results in a change of footprint; or commencing the work of total or substantial destruction with the intent of completing same.
REPLACE WITH: DEMOLITION – The removal of a full street facing façade or other act of pulling down, destroying, removing, dismantling or razing a structure, or commencing the work of total or substantial destruction with the intent of completing the same. “Substantial” herein shall mean either half the volume of the structure or half its assessed value, as determined by the Building Commissioner.

Amend § 24-4(C)(2)&(3) Procedure as follows;

REPLACE the phrases “90 days from the date of the Commission's determination.” & “until 90 days after the completed demolition permit application is filed.” **with the following;**
“until expiration of a delay period to be determined by the Commission. Said delay period shall not exceed 12 months from the date of the public hearing.” Or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proceeding: William Barkin, Chairman of the Historical Commission moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to adopt Article 37. The Moderator declared Article 37 carried by majority voice vote.

ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

Article 38. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Williamstown Zoning By-Laws, §70 of the Code of the Town of Williamstown as follows:

Amend §70-1.4.G(2)(b)[4], §70-5.3.B(5), §70-5.3.C(5), §70-7.1.G(4)(b), §70-8.1(B) by deleting the term “Inspector of Buildings” and replacing with “Building Commissioner”

Amend §70-8.1(A) by deleting the term “Inspector of Buildings” and replacing with “Building Commissioner in consultation with the Planning Administrator”.

Amend §70-1.4.G(3), §70-1.4.G(3)(a), §70-3.2.A, §70-7.2.F(7)(h), §70-7.2.G(6)(a), §70-7.2.G(6)(b), §70-7.4.D(4)(a)[2], §70-7.4.D(6), §70-7.4.E(3)(b)[2], §70-8.1(C), §70-8.1(D)

By deleting the term “Inspector of Buildings” and replacing with “Planning Administrator”

Amend §70-5.1.A(2), §70-8.2(D)(1), & §70-8.2(D)(2)

by deleting the term “Town Planner” and replacing with “Planning Administrator”

Amend §70-7.2.F(10)(a), Amend §70-7.2.F(10)(a), §70-7.2.F(10)(c) by deleting the term “Building Inspector” and replacing with “Planning Administrator”

Amend §70-7.2.F(10)(d), by deleting the term “Building Inspector” and replacing with “Building Commissioner”

Amend §70-6.1.B(11) by deleting the following;

“Inspector of Buildings or, if subject to development plan review by the”

Amend §70-8.1 by deleting the existing text and replacing with the following;

The provisions of this chapter shall be administered and enforced by the Planning Administrator as defined by §70-9.

Amend §70-8.1.C by deleting the existing text and replacing with the following;

Violations and penalty. Violation shall be determined by the Planning Administrator by an investigation of the fact and inspection of the premises, after which he shall give notice thereof in writing to the owner or to his duly authorized agent and to the occupant of the premises, and shall order that any use of any premises contrary to the provisions of this chapter shall immediately cease. Whoever violates any provision of this chapter, or any of the conditions under which a permit is issued by the Building Commissioner, or permission is granted by the Board of Appeals, or any decision rendered by the Board of Appeals under the provision of this chapter, shall be liable to a fine as provided in the Noncriminal Disposition Bylaw for each violation. Each day of violation after such written notice will be considered a separate offense. If, after such notice, the premises continue to be used in a manner contrary to the provisions of this chapter, or if any such owner or occupant shall fail to obey any law, or if any such owner or occupant shall fail to obey any lawful order of the Planning Administrator in respect to any violation or use contrary to the provisions of this chapter, the Planning Administrator shall institute appropriate legal proceedings to enforce the provisions of this chapter or to restrain by injunction any violation thereof, or both.

Amend §70-9.2 by Deleting the following;

INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS -- The Inspector of Buildings or other zoning enforcement authority, or his duly authorized representative, appointed by the Town Manager, and charged with the enforcement of this chapter.

And replace with the following;

BUILDING COMMISSIONER – That Town official designated by the Town Manager to carry out the responsibilities as assigned by Section 3 of Chapter 143 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The Building Commissioner shall act as the Planning Administrator if no other official is designated to that position.

PLANNING ADMINISTRATOR: The Director of the Community Development Department or other Town official designated by the Town Manager to carry out the duties assigned to that position in this chapter. The Planning Administrator shall act as the Zoning Enforcement Officer and is responsible for the enforcement of this chapter. Proceeding: Elizabeth McGowan, Chairman of the Planning Board moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to adopt Article 38. She then proceeded to give the report of the Planning Board.

There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 38 carried by unanimous voice vote.

ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT - SOLAR BYLAW

Article 39. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Williamstown Zoning By-Laws, §70 of the Code of the Town of Williamstown as follows:

Amend §70-3.3B by adding the following use designation

ZONING DISTRICTS	RR1	RR2 RR3	GR	LB	VB	PB	LI	SG
§ 70-3.3B ACCESSORY USES								
Canopy Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Systems	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Building or roof mounted solar energy collection systems	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Small – Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Systems	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Medium – Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Systems	BA	Yes	BA	BA	No	Yes	Yes	BA
Large – Scale Ground Mounted	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No

Solar Photovoltaic Systems								
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Amend §70-3.3.C by adding the following use designation

ZONING DISTRICTS	RR1	RR2 RR3	GR	LB	VB	PB	LI	SG
§ 70-3.3.C OTHER USES								
Small – Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Systems	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Medium – Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Systems	BA	Yes	BA	BA	No	BA	Yes	BA
Large – Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Systems	No	BA	No	No	No	BA	Yes	No

§70-7H Solar Energy Systems

1) Purpose

The purpose of this bylaw is to promote the deployment of solar energy systems of all sizes by providing reasonable standards for the placement, design, construction, operation, monitoring, modification and removal of such installations that address public safety, minimize impacts on scenic, natural and historic resources, and in the case of large installations, to provide adequate financial assurance for their eventual decommissioning.

2) General requirements for all canopy mounted solar energy systems

(a) Utility Notification.

No grid-connected canopy mounted solar photovoltaic system shall be installed until evidence has been provided to the Building Commissioner as part of a building permit application that the owner has notified the utility company of the customer's intent to install an interconnected customer-owned generator. Off-grid systems are exempt from this requirement.

(b) Design Standards

All canopy-mounted solar energy installations must fulfill the following requirements:

[1] Height limitations

[a] Maximum Height: Each canopy-mounted solar array (one or more solar panels that are joined as a unit), together with its supporting structure, may not exceed a height of 18 feet above the ground. In the case of movable or tracking mounts, height is measured at maximum design tilt.

[b] Minimum Clearance: Each canopy-mounted solar array together with its supporting structure must provide a minimum clearance of 13 feet to allow for emergency vehicle and maintenance vehicle access.

3) General requirements for all ground mounted solar energy systems

(a) Utility Notification.

No grid-connected ground mounted solar photovoltaic system shall be installed until evidence has been provided, to the Building Commissioner as part of a building permit application for systems permitted by right or to the Zoning Board of Appeals for systems permitted by special permit, that the owner has notified the utility company of the customer's intent to install an interconnected customer-owned generator. Off-grid systems are exempt from this requirement.

(b) Design Standards

All ground-mounted solar energy installations must fulfill the following requirements:

[1] Height limitations

Each ground-mounted solar array (one or more solar panels that are joined as a unit), together with its supporting structure, may not exceed a height of 15 feet above the ground. In the case of movable or tracking mounts, height is measured at maximum design tilt.

[2] Dimension and Density Requirements

[a] Coverage area is calculated as the amount of impervious area created by the panel support structures.

[b] All ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations shall conform to the minimum yards, building cover and open space requirements defined for the underlying district in §70-4.3.

[c] Building cover shall be calculated as measured at minimum design tilt

[d] The minimum required yard where abutting a residential district for an installation in Limited Industrial is reduced to 75 feet.

[3] Appurtenant Structures

All appurtenant structures to ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations shall be subject to the district's regulations concerning the bulk and height of structures, lot area, setbacks, open space, parking and building coverage requirements. All such appurtenant structures, including but not limited to, equipment shelters, storage facilities, transformers, and substations, shall be architecturally compatible with each other. Whenever reasonable, structures should be shaded from view by vegetation and/or joined or clustered to avoid adverse visual impacts.

[4] Lighting

- [5] No lighting of the solar photovoltaic installation is permitted. Lighting of appurtenant structures is limited to that required for safety and operational purposes. All lighting shall be directed away from adjacent properties and shall comply with the requirements of 70-5.4.D.

4) **Requirements for large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations**

In addition to the requirements of Section 70-7H(3), the additional requirements of this section shall apply to large-scale solar photovoltaic installations.

(a) Required documentation

The applicant shall submit documentation required by 70-8.2, Development Plan Review, and shall also submit the following documentation to the Zoning Board of Appeals or authority performing Development Plan Review.

- [a] Plans showing the following; Property lines, easements, and physical features, including roads, for the project site;
- [b] Proposed changes to the landscape of the site, grading, vegetation clearing and planting, exterior lighting, screening vegetation or structures;
- [c] Drawings of the solar photovoltaic installation signed by a Professional Engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts showing the proposed layout of the system and any potential shading from nearby structures;
- [d] Electrical diagram detailing the solar photovoltaic installation, associated components, and electrical interconnection methods, with all National Electrical Code compliant disconnects and overcurrent devices;
- [e] Documentation of the major system components to be used, including the PV panels, mounting system, and inverter;
- [f] Name, address, and contact information for proposed system installer;
- [g] Name, address, phone number and signature of the project proponent, as well as all co-proponents or property owners, if any;
- [h] The name, contact information and signature of any agents representing the project proponent

[2] Site Control

The project proponent shall submit documentation of actual or prospective access and

[3] Operation & Maintenance Plan

(b) Design Standards

[1] Signage

[2] Utility Connections

[3] Safety and Environmental Standards

[a] Emergency Services

[b] Land Clearing, Soil Erosion and Habitat Impacts

[c] Fencing

[d] Screening

All large scale solar photovoltaic installations shall be screened from the public way and any adjacent residential property by plantings of at least six feet in height and 90% opacity or in cases where this may not be feasible by an alternative deemed acceptable by the Zoning Board of Appeals or other Development Plan Review Authority.

[4] Monitoring and Maintenance

[a] Solar Photovoltaic Installation Conditions

The large - scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation owner or operator shall maintain the facility in good condition. Maintenance shall include, but not be limited to, painting, structural repairs, stormwater management, access, and integrity of security measures. The owner or operator shall be responsible for the cost of maintaining the solar photovoltaic installation and any access road(s)

[b] Modifications

All material modifications to a solar photovoltaic installation made after issuance of the required building permit shall require approval by either the Zoning Board of Appeals, if the original installation was permitted pursuant to a Special Permit, or other Development Plan Review Authority, for all other large-scale ground mounted solar installations.

[5] Abandonment or Decommissioning

[a] Removal Requirements

Any large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation which has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned shall be removed. The owner or operator shall physically remove the installation no more than 150 days after the date of discontinued operations. The owner or operator shall notify the Planning Administrator by certified mail of the proposed date of discontinued operations and plans for removal. Decommissioning shall consist of:

[i] Physical removal of all large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations, structures, equipment, security barriers and transmission lines from the site.

[ii] Disposal of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local, state, and federal waste disposal regulations.

[iii] Stabilization or re-vegetation of the site as necessary to minimize erosion. The Planning Administrator may allow the owner or operator to leave landscaping or designated below-grade foundations in order to minimize erosion and disruption to vegetation.

[b] Abandonment

Absent notice of a proposed date of decommissioning or written notice of extenuating circumstances, the solar photovoltaic installation shall be considered abandoned when it

fails to operate for more than one year without the written consent of the Zoning Board of Appeals or other Development Plan Review Authority. If the owner or operator of the large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation fails to remove the installation in accordance with the requirements of this section within 150 days of abandonment or the proposed date of decommissioning, the town may enter the property to the extent it is duly authorized by law and physically remove the installation. As a condition of Site Plan or Special Permit approval, the applicant and landowner shall agree to allow entry to remove an abandoned or decommissioned installation. The Town's cost for the removal will be charged to the property owner in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. 139, Section 3A as a tax lien on the property.

(c) Special Permit approval criteria

Where a special permit is required for a large or medium scale solar photovoltaic installation, the Zoning Board of Appeals shall apply the following guidelines to its deliberations:

- [1] In acting on the special permit application, the Zoning Board of Appeals shall proceed in accordance with the procedures and timelines established for special permits in § 70-8.4D of this chapter.
- [2] In addition to the findings required by § 70-8.4D of this chapter, the Zoning Board of Appeals shall make the following finding, that the applicant has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the solar photovoltaic facility will not have an undue adverse impact on historic resources, scenic views, natural or man-made resources.

§70-8.2.A DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVIEW APPLICABILITY

(5) Creation of, or substantial alteration to a Large Scale Solar Photovoltaic Installation.

§70-9.2 DEFINITIONS

SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS (LARGE-SCALE): Large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations are composed of solar photovoltaic panels on ground-based mounting systems (poles or racks) where the combined total area of the solar panels is greater than 20,000 square feet.

SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS (MEDIUM -SCALE): Medium-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations are composed of solar photovoltaic panels on ground-based mounting systems (poles or racks) where the combined total area of the solar panels is greater than 1,000 square feet and 20,000 square feet or less.

SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS (SMALL -SCALE): Small-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations are composed of solar photovoltaic

panels on ground-based mounting systems (poles or racks) where the combined total area of the solar panels is 1,000 square feet or less.

BUILDING OR ROOF-MOUNTED SOLAR ENERGY COLLECTION SYSTEM:

Solar photovoltaic panel or array, solar hot air or hot water panel collector device, or other type of energy system which relies upon solar radiation as a source for the generation of electricity or transfer of heat that is mounted on a building or roof of a building.

CANOPY MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS: Canopy mounted solar photovoltaic installations are composed of solar photovoltaic panels on mounting equipment and its supporting structures designed to be installed over a parking lot or other access drives or vehicular maneuvering area.

This proposed bylaw amendment creates guidelines for installation of solar photovoltaic systems of all sizes. Large scale systems are regulated based on which zone they are located in. Roof mounted and small residential systems are permitted by right with no special restrictions.

Proceeding: Elizabeth McGowan, Chairman of the Planning Board moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to adopt Article 39. She then proceeded to give the report of the Planning Board.

There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 39 carried by unanimous voice vote.

ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

Article 40. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Williamstown Zoning By-Laws, §70 of the Code of the Town of Williamstown as follows:

Amend §70-6.1.D(2) Spring Street Parking Requirements by removing the phrases “Spring Street Parking Requirements” & “properties fronting on Spring Street” and replace with the following;

“Village Business District Parking Requirements” & “properties located in the Village Business District.”;

This proposed article will remove the requirement for businesses to provide off-street parking in the Village Business District beyond Spring Street (Water, Latham, Meacham Streets). Dwelling units will continue to be subject to off-street parking requirements.

Proceeding: Elizabeth McGowan, Chairman of the Planning Board moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to adopt Article 40. She then proceeded to give the report of the Planning Board. Amy Jeschawitz, a member of the Planning Board stated the bylaw change is premature, and the town must first find a comprehensive parking solution for Spring Street during its busy times. Planning Board member, Ann McCallum stated that the bylaw change anticipates a proposal with state officials to redesign Water Street, which includes creating on-street parking. Following a short discussion, the Moderator declared Article 40 carried by 2/3 majority voice vote.

REDUCTION OF SINGLE USE BAGS

Article 41. A new bylaw for the Code of Williamstown, relating to regulating the use of plastic bags and paper carryout bags within the Town and promoting the use of reusable bags.

§ 1. PURPOSE AND INTENT

WHEREAS, the Town has a duty to protect the natural environment, the economy, and the health of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the production and use of single-use bags have significant impacts on the environment, including, but not limited to:

- contributing to pollution of the land environment and waterways
- contributing to the potential death of marine and other wildlife;
- clogging storm drainage systems;
- littering Williamstown's streets, parks, public places, and local waterways including reservoirs, lakes, the Hoosac River, and the Green River; and

WHEREAS, plastic bags are made from fossil fuels, a non-renewable resource; and

WHEREAS, the manufacture, use, and disposal of plastic bags and paper bags requires substantial energy consumption and contributes to greenhouse gases and other adverse environmental effects; and

WHEREAS, plastic bags are not biodegradable or compostable, and are commonly not recycled; and

WHEREAS, single-use paper and plastic bags create a burden to solid waste collection and recycling facilities; and

WHEREAS, the costs associated with the use and distribution of single-use paper and plastic bags are borne by retail establishments and passed on to the customer; and

WHEREAS, affordable, ecologically responsible alternatives, including reusable bags, are readily available from numerous sources and vendors; and

WHEREAS, over 100 municipalities throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Africa, Latin America, and Asia have placed restrictions on and/or fees for carryout bags, including Brookline, Great Barrington, Manchester, Newton, Provincetown in Massachusetts, as well as Los Angeles, CA; Boulder, CO; Washington, DC; Dallas, TX; and Seattle, WA,

NOW THEREFORE, the Town of Williamstown hereby enacts the following bylaw to regulate the use of plastic carryout bags and paper carryout bags within the Town and to promote the use of reusable bags.

§2. DEFINITIONS.

The following words and phrases shall, unless context clearly indicates otherwise, have the following meanings:

ASTM D6400

The American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) International "Standard Specification for Compostable Plastics" which includes those plastics and products made from plastics that are designed to be composted under aerobic conditions in municipal and industrial aerobic composting facilities.

ASTM D7081

ASTM International "Standard Specification for Biodegradable Plastics in the Marine Environment" which includes those plastics and products that are designed to be biodegradable under the marine environmental conditions of aerobic marine waters or anaerobic marine sediments, or both.

BIODEGRADABLE

Materials that will completely degrade and return to nature, i.e., decompose into elements found in nature within a reasonably short period of time after customary disposal.

CARRYOUT BAG

A bag provided by a store to a customer at the point of sale for the purpose of removing products purchased therein.

COMPOSTABLE PLASTIC BAG

A plastic bag that (1) conforms to the current ASTM D6400 specifications for compostability; (2) is certified and labeled as meeting the ASTM D6400 standard specifications by a recognized verification entity. A plastic bag that is made of polyethylene, polyethylene terephthalate, polyvinyl chloride, polypropylene, or nylon is not deemed "compostable."

CUSTOMER

Any person purchasing goods from a store.

MARINE DEGRADABLE PLASTIC BAG

A plastic bag that conforms to the current ASTM D7081 standard specification for marine degradability. A plastic bag that is made of polyethylene, polyethylene terephthalate, polyvinyl chloride, polypropylene, or nylon is not deemed "marine degradable."

PERSON

Any natural person, firm, corporation, partnership, or other organization or group however organized.

POSTCONSUMER RECYCLED MATERIAL

A material that would otherwise be destined for solid waste disposal, having completed its intended end use and product life cycle.

PRODUCE BAG or PRODUCT BAG

A bag used by a consumer inside a business establishment to: (A) contain bulk items, such as produce, nuts, grains, candy, or small hardware items; (B) contain or wrap meat, fish, or frozen foods whether or not pre-packaged; (C) contain or wrap flowers, potted plants, or other items to prevent moisture damage to other purchases; or (D) contain unwrapped prepared foods or bakery goods.

RECYCLABLE

Material that can be sorted, cleansed, and reconstituted using available recycling collection programs in the Town of Williamstown for the purpose of using the altered form in the manufacture of a new product. "Recycling" does not include burning, incinerating, converting, or otherwise thermally destroying solid waste.

RECYCLABLE PAPER BAG means a paper bag that meets all of the following requirements: (1) contains no old growth fiber, (2) is one hundred percent (100%) recyclable overall and contains a minimum of forty percent (40%) postconsumer recycled material; (3) is capable of composting, consistent with the timeline and

specifications of the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standard D6400.

RETAIL ESTABLISHMENT

Any commercial business facility that sells goods and/or services directly to the consumer including but not limited to grocery stores, pharmacies, liquor stores, convenience stores, restaurants, retail stores and vendors selling clothing, food, and personal items, and dry cleaning services

REUSABLE CARRYOUT BAG

A carryout bag that is specifically designed and manufactured for multiple reuse and meets the requirements of Section 5 of this chapter.

SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAGS

Those bags, with or without handles, constructed of a film of high-density polyethylene (HDPE), low-density polyethylene (LDPE), linear low-density polyethylene (LLDPE), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polypropylene (other than woven and non-woven polypropylene fabric) if said film is less than 4.0 mils (0.1016 mm) in thickness and which do not meet the ASTM D6400 and ASTM D7081 standard specifications.

§3. REGULATIONS AND PROHIBITIONS.

- (a) No retail establishment in the Town of Williamstown shall provide single-use plastic bags to customers.
- (b) If a retail establishment provides carryout bags, produce bags, or product bags to customers, the bags must be one of the following:
 - (1) Recyclable Paper Bag, or
 - (2) Reusable Carryout Bag, or
 - (3) Compostable Plastic Bag (meeting the specifications of ASTM D6400, as defined herein), or
 - (4) Marine Degradable Plastic Bag (meeting the specifications of ASTM 7081, as defined herein)
- (c) Nothing in this chapter prohibits customers from using bags of any type that they bring to the store themselves or from carrying away goods that are not placed in a bag, in lieu of using bags provided by the store.
- (d) Any retail establishment that provides a recyclable paper bag, a compostable plastic bag, or a marine degradable plastic bag, with the exception of produce bags and product bags, to a customer must charge the customer 10 cents (\$0.10) for each bag provided, except as otherwise provided in Section 6 of this chapter.
- (e) No retail establishment shall rebate or otherwise reimburse a customer any portion of the 10-cent (\$0.10) charge required in Subsection (a), except as otherwise provided in Section 6 of this chapter.
- (f) All monies collected by a retail establishment under this chapter will be retained by that retail establishment.
- (g) This regulation does not apply to bags used by a non-profit corporation or other charity to distribute food, grocery products, clothing, or other household items to clients.

§ 4. REUSABLE BAG STANDARDS

- (a) A retail establishment may provide or sell reusable carryout bags to its customers or to any person.
- (b) A reusable carryout bag must have a handle.

- (c) A reusable carryout bag must be constructed out of:
 - (1) cloth, other washable fabric, or other durable materials whether woven or non-woven; or
 - (2) recyclable plastic, with a minimum thickness of 4.0 mil.
- (d) A reusable carryout bag must meet the minimum reuse testing standard of 175 reuses carrying 16 pounds.

§ 5. EXEMPTIONS

- (a) All retail establishments must provide at the point of sale, free of charge, either reusable bags or recyclable paper bags or both, at the establishment's option, to any customer participating either in the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, or in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP) Program pursuant to M.G.L. c. 18.
- (b) The provisions of this chapter do not apply to bags used by a non-profit corporation or other charity as defined by M.G.L. c. 12 to distribute food, grocery products, clothing, or other household items to clients.

§ 6. ENFORCEMENT; VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES.

- (a) The Town shall have the authority to enforce this chapter by:
 - (1) inspection and investigation;
 - (2) the issuance of violation notices and administrative orders; and/or
 - (3) civil and criminal court actions
- (b) Whoever, himself or by his servant or agent or as the servant or agent of any other person or firm or corporation, violates any of the provisions of these regulations may be penalized by a non-criminal disposition process as provided in MGL c. 40, §21D. Each day of violation, after written notice, is a separate violation.
- (c) The following penalties shall apply:
 - (1) First offense: Warning
 - (2) Second offense: \$50
 - (3) Third offense: \$100
 - (4) Fourth and subsequent offense: \$200
- (d) The Town may suspend, revoke or deny any license or permit for violations of this chapter.
- (e) Whoever violates any provision of this chapter may be penalized by indictment or on complaint brought in the district court.

§ 7. SEVERABILITY; EFFECTIVE DATE.

- (a) Each section of this chapter shall be construed as separate to the end that if any section, sentence, clause or phrase thereof shall be held invalid for any reason, the remainder of that chapter and all other chapters shall continue in full force.
- (b) This chapter shall take effect 6 months after its adoption.

Proceeding: Brad Verter moved, and it was seconded, the Adhoc citizens committee recommends the Town vote to adopt Article 42. Mr. Verter then offered the following amendments that were seconded:

§ 2. DEFINITIONS.

CARRYOUT BAG - Revise “store” to read “retail establishment”

COMPOSTABLE PLASTIC BAG – Insert “and” before “(2)”

CUSTOMER – Revise “store” to read “retail establishment”

PRODUCE BAG or PRODUCT BAG – Revise “business establishment” to read “retail establishment”

REUSEABLE CARRYOUT BAG –Revise “Section 5” to “Section 4”

§ 3 REGULATIONS AND PROHIBITIONS.

§ 3 (c) Revise “store” to read “retail establishment” (on second and third line)

§ 3 (d) Revise “Section 6” to read “Section 5”

§ 3 (e) Revise “Section 6” to read “Section 5”

§ 3 (g) Strike entire clause

§ 6 (a) (3) Strike “and criminal”

§ 6 (e) Strike entire clause.

The Moderator declared the vote on the amendments carried by majority voice vote.

Mr. Verter then addressed the town meeting in favor of the article. He stated that Williamstown goes through more than 200,000 plastic bags a month and explained the negativity of plastic bags. He noted that the 10 cent bag fee is to encourage human behavior change. He also stated his committee has done extraordinary outreach educating the public about the proposed bylaw.

Selectmen Hugh Daley moved, and it was seconded, that Article 42 be referred to the Board of Selectman for further action. He stated the Selectmen have gone on record supporting the goal of this effort, but it should be drafted in the open and public process. He stated the bylaw should be taken through the public process with public meetings where it will have full attention of the Board of Health and Health Inspector. It can then have full review of Town Counsel so they can deliver a bylaw in its complete form that won’t need extensive revisions at town meeting. He urged voters to support the motion to refer to committee.

Thomas Hyde and Shira Wohlberg read a letter from the Director of the Massachusetts Chapter of the Sierra Club asking the voters of Williamstown to pass the bylaw.

Following a lengthy discussion about referring the bylaw to the Selectmen for committee, a call was made to “call the question”. The Moderator declared the vote to call the question as carried by a 2/3 majority voice vote. The Moderator then declared the vote to refer the bylaw to Committee as defeated by a vote of 128 in favor and 166 opposed. Dan Caplinger offered the following typographical amendment, that was seconded, § 3 (e) should read “....Subsection (d), except as otherwise” The Moderator declared the motion to the amendment as carried by unanimous voice vote. Discussion resumed on the article as amended. A call was again made to “call the question”. The Moderator declared the vote to call the question as carried by 2/3 majority voice vote. The Moderator then called for a vote on the article, as amended. He declared it carried by a vote of 205 in favor and 81 opposed.

REDUCTION OF POLYSTYRENE

Article 42. A new bylaw for the Code of Williamstown prohibiting the use and distribution of foam and rigid polystyrene in food service ware and packaging

material and requiring the use and distribution of biodegradable, compostable, reusable, or recyclable products or materials in its place.

§ 1. FINDINGS AND INTENT

WHEREAS, the Town has a duty to protect the natural environment, the economy, and the health of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, styrene, a component of polystyrene, is a known hazardous substance, classified by the National Toxicology Program (NTP) as “reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen” and also recognized by the NTP as a potential food and beverage contaminant that may “leach from polystyrene containers used for food products”; and

WHEREAS, polystyrene is made from fossil fuels, a non-renewable resource; and

WHEREAS, polystyrene manufacture, use, and disposal requires substantial energy consumption and contributes to greenhouse gases and other adverse environmental effects; and

WHEREAS, polystyrene is not biodegradable or compostable, and is generally not recyclable; and

WHEREAS, polystyrene is a common environmental pollutant that fragments into smaller pieces that harm or kill marine life and wildlife when they ingest them;

WHEREAS, the EPA states "that such materials can also have serious impacts on human health, wildlife, the aquatic environment and the economy"; and

WHEREAS, polystyrene is used as food service ware by food establishments and packing material by retail establishments operating in the Town; and

WHEREAS, disposable food service ware constitutes a portion of the litter in Williamstown's streets, parks and public places, which increases Town costs; and

WHEREAS, affordable and effective ways to reduce the negative environmental impacts of polystyrene products through the use of reusable, recyclable, biodegradable and/or compostable materials are available for most retail applications; and

WHEREAS, over 100 municipalities throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia have banned polystyrene food service ware, including Amherst, Brookline, Great Barrington, Somerville, and South Hadley in Massachusetts, as well as: Los Angeles, CA; Chicago, IL; Miami Beach, FL; Albany, NY; New York, NY; Portland, OR; and Seattle, WA,

NOW THEREFORE, the Town of Williamstown hereby enacts this bylaw to prohibit the use and distribution of foam and rigid polystyrene in food service ware and packaging material and require the use and distribution of biodegradable, compostable, reusable, or recyclable products or materials in their place.

§ 2. DEFINITIONS

The following words and phrases shall, unless context clearly indicates otherwise, have the following meanings:

ASTM STANDARD

Refers to materials meeting the standards of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) International Standards D6400 or D6868 for biodegradable and compostable plastics, as those standards may be amended D6400 is the specification for plastics designed for compostability in municipal or industrial aerobic composting facilities. D6868 is the specification for aerobic compostability of plastics used as coatings on a compostable substrate.

BIODEGRADABLE

Materials that will completely degrade and return to nature, i.e., decompose into elements found in nature within a reasonably short period of time after customary disposal.

COMPOSTABLE

Materials that will completely degrade into, or otherwise become part of, usable compost (e.g., soil-conditioning material, mulch) in a safe and timely manner. Compostable disposable food service ware must meet ASTM-Standards for compostability and any bio-plastic or plastic-like product must be clearly labeled, preferably with a color symbol, such that any customer or processor can easily distinguish the ASTM Standard compostable plastic from non-ASTM Specification compostable plastic.

DISPOSABLE FOOD SERVICE WARE

All containers, bowls, plates, trays, cartons, cups, lids, straws, forks, spoons, knives, and other items designed for one-time or non-durable uses on or in which any food vendor directly places or packages prepared foods or which are used to consume foods. This includes, but is not limited to, service ware for takeout foods and/or leftovers from partially consumed meals prepared at food establishments.

FOOD ESTABLISHMENT

An operation that stores, prepares, packages, serves, vends, or otherwise provides food for human consumption, as further defined in 105 CMR 590.002. Any establishment requiring a permit to operate in accordance with the State Food Code, 105 CMR 590.000, et. seq., shall be considered a "Food Establishment" for purposes of this ordinance.

POLYSTYRENE

The term means and includes blown polystyrene and expanded and extruded foams (sometimes called "Styrofoam," a Dow Chemical Co. trademarked form of EPS insulation) also referred to as expanded polystyrene (EPS), which are thermoplastic petrochemical materials utilizing a styrene monomer and processed by any number of techniques including, but not limited to, fusion of polymer spheres (expandable bead polystyrene), injection molding, form molding, and extrusion-blow molding (extruded foam polystyrene); and in this chapter is referenced as "Foam Polystyrene." Foam Polystyrene is generally used to make cups, bowls, plates, trays, clamshell containers, meat trays and egg cartons.

The term also means and includes clear or solid polystyrene which is also known as "oriented," and referenced in this chapter as "Rigid Polystyrene." "Rigid Polystyrene" is generally used to make clear clamshell containers, and clear or colored straws, lids and utensils.

POLYSTYRENE LOOSE FILL PACKAGING

A void filled packaging product made of expanded polystyrene that is used as a packaging fill, commonly known as "packing peanuts."

PREPARED FOOD

Food or beverages, which are served, packaged, cooked, chopped, sliced, mixed, brewed, frozen, squeezed or otherwise prepared on the food establishment's premises

within the Town of Williamstown. Prepared food may be eaten either on or off the premises, also known as "takeout food."

RECYCLABLE

Material that can be sorted, cleansed, and reconstituted using available recycling collection programs for the purpose of using the altered form in the manufacture of a new product. "Recycling" does not include burning, incinerating, converting, or otherwise thermally destroying solid waste.

RETAIL ESTABLISHMENT

Any commercial business facility that sells goods directly to the consumer including but not limited to grocery stores, pharmacies, liquor stores, convenience stores, restaurants, retail stores and vendors selling clothing, food, and personal items, and dry cleaning services

REUSABLE

Materials that will be used more than once in its same form by a business establishment. Reusable food service ware includes: tableware, flatware, food or beverage containers, packages or trays, such as, but not limited to, soft drink bottles and milk containers that are designed to be returned to the distributor and customer that is provided take-out containers. Reusable also includes durable containers, packages, or trays used on-premises or returnable containers brought back to the food establishment.

§ 3. PROHIBITED USE AND DISTRIBUTION OF DISPOSABLE FOOD SERVICE WARE AND POLYSTYRENE LOOSE FILL PACKAGING

- (a) Food establishments are prohibited from providing prepared food to customers in Foam Polystyrene or Rigid Polystyrene food service ware.
- (b) All food establishments using any disposable food service ware will use biodegradable, compostable, reusable or recyclable food service ware. All food establishments are strongly encouraged to use reusable food service ware in place of using disposable food service ware for all food served on-premises.
- (c) Retail establishments are prohibited from selling or distributing foam polystyrene or rigid polystyrene food service ware to customers.
- (d) No manufacturer may dispense, sell, or offer for sale polystyrene loose fill packaging in the Town of Williamstown.

§ 4. EXEMPTIONS

- (a) Foods prepared or packaged outside the Town of Williamstown are exempt from the provisions of this chapter. Purveyors of food prepared or packaged outside the Town of Williamstown are encouraged to follow the provisions of this chapter.
- (b) Food establishments and retail establishments will be exempted from the provisions of this chapter for specific items or types of disposable food service ware if the Board of Health or its designee finds that a suitable biodegradable, compostable, reusable, or recyclable alternative does not exist for a specific application and/or that imposing the requirements of this chapter on that item or type of disposable food service ware would cause undue hardship.
- (c) Any person may seek an exemption from the requirements of this chapter by filing a request in writing with the Board of Health. The Board of Health may waive any specific requirement of this chapter for a period of not more than one year if the person seeking the exemption has demonstrated that strict application of the specific

requirement would cause undue hardship. For purposes of this chapter, an “undue hardship” is a situation unique to the food establishment where there are no reasonable alternatives to the use of expanded polystyrene disposable food service containers and compliance with this provision would cause significant economic hardship to that food establishment. A person granted an exemption must re-apply prior to the end of the one year exemption period and demonstrate continued undue hardship if the person wishes to have the exemption extended. The Board of Health’s decision to grant or deny an exemption or to grant or deny an extension of a previously issued exemption shall be in writing and shall be final.

- (d) Coolers and ice chests that are intended for reuse are exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

§ 5. ENFORCEMENT: VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

- (a) The Board of Health shall have the authority to enforce this chapter by:
 - (1) inspection and investigation;
 - (2) the issuance of violation notices and administrative orders; and/or
 - (3) civil and criminal court actions
- (b) Whoever, himself or by his servant or agent or as the servant or agent of any other person or firm or corporation, violates any of the provisions of these regulations may be penalized by a non-criminal disposition process as provided in MGL c. 40, §21D. Each day of violation, after written notice, is a separate violation.
- (c) The following penalties shall apply:
 - (1) First offense: Warning
 - (2) Second offense: \$50
 - (3) Third offense: \$100
 - (4) Fourth and subsequent offense: \$200
- (d) The Board of Health may suspend, revoke or deny any license or permit for violations of this chapter.
- (e) Whoever violates any provision of this chapter may be penalized by indictment or on complaint brought in the district court.

§ 6. SEVERABILITY: EFFECTIVE DATE

- (a) Each section of this chapter shall be construed as separate to the end that if any section, sentence, clause or phrase thereof shall be held invalid for any reason, the remainder of that chapter and all other chapters shall continue in full force.
- (b) This chapter shall take effect 6 months after its adoption.

Proceeding: Proceeding: Brad Verter moved, and it was seconded, the Adhoc citizens committee recommends the Town vote to adopt Article 42. Mr. Verter then offered the following amendments that were seconded.

Mr. Verter then moved, and it was seconded, the following amendments:

§ 5. (a) (3) Strike “ and criminal...” and § 5. (e) Strike the entire clause.

The Moderator then declared the vote on the motion to amend as carried by unanimous voice vote. Mr. Verter then spoke on behalf of the article expressing the negativity of polystyrene.

Selectmen Hugh Daley, moved and it was seconded, to refer Article 42 to the Board of Selectmen for further action. He said the same reason he stated in Article 41 apply to this bylaw as well.

A motion was made to “call the question”, which the Moderator declared carried by 2/3 majority voice vote. He then called for a vote for the amendment to refer to the Board of Selectmen for committee. He declared that vote as defeated by a vote of 94 in favor and 176 opposed.

A motion was immediately made to “call the question”. The Moderator declared the vote as carried by 2/3 majority voice vote.

The Moderator then declared that Article 42, as amended, as carried by majority voice vote.

ARTICLE: 43. Resolution Opposing the Northeast Energy Direct Pipeline and Supporting Renewable Energy

Whereas, Kinder Morgan, Inc., is proposing a large, high-pressure natural gas pipeline, called “Northeast Energy Direct” (NED), to run through Hancock, Lanesborough, and neighboring communities in Berkshire County; and

Whereas, NED would transport natural gas obtained through hydraulic fracturing, a drilling method associated with ground water contamination, air pollution, and serious environmental and public health risks; and

Whereas, NED would pass through farms, forests, wetlands, conservation lands, and under bodies of water, disrupting regional watersheds and ecological health as well as infringing on personal property rights; and

Whereas, NED presents a risk of leakage or rupture, which could result in significant damage to property and lives, while leaving communities responsible for emergency response and mitigation; and

Whereas, Massachusetts citizens may be subjected to a utility bill tariff to finance Kinder Morgan’s NED project, making ratepayers bear a financial burden for the pursuits of a private corporation; and

Whereas, our regional energy needs can be better served through investments in renewable energy, efficiency, repairs, and energy storage, together with our existing infrastructure, allowing us to meet our goals under the Massachusetts Global Warming Solutions Act of 2008; and

Whereas, we the citizens of Williamstown, Massachusetts, where 153 homes were destroyed during Tropical Storm Irene in 2011, understand the gravity of climate change and the urgency of addressing it through measures to transition off fossil fuels; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the people of Williamstown, Massachusetts:

1. Stand in opposition to the Kinder Morgan Northeast Energy Direct pipeline.
2. Stand in solidarity with the more than fifty Massachusetts and New Hampshire communities who oppose the NED pipeline and seek to ban its construction in our region.
3. Affirm the need for strengthened public policy at the local, state and federal levels to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, ban hydraulic fracturing, and improve the safety of the existing methods of transporting fossil fuels.
4. Encourage the development of renewable energy sources and their integration into the

electricity supply market.

5. Shall cause a copy of this resolution to be presented to our governor and our state and federal legislative representatives.

Proceeding: Anne O'Connor moved, and it was seconded, the Town vote to adopt Article 43. Ms. O'Connor and Shira Wohlberg gave overviews of the resolution and urged voters support. There being no discussion, the Moderator declared Article 43 carried by majority voice vote.

Adjournment: A motion was made, and duly seconded, that the 2015 Annual Town Meeting **adjourn**. There being no other business, the Moderator declared the adjournment by unanimous voice vote at 10:03 PM.

And you are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof in four or more public places, as well as the United States Post Office within the Town.

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant, with your doings to the Town Clerk on or before the time set for holding said meeting.

Signed: Ronald Turbin, chairman

Jane Patton, vice-chairman

Andrew Hogeland

Thomas Sheldon

Hugh Daley

Williamstown Board of Selectmen

Date April 13, 2015

Berkshire, ss:

April 15, 2015

I hereby certify that I have posted attested copies of the above Warrant in four public places in the Town of Williamstown, and the Post Office at least seven days before said Annual Town Election and Town Meeting. s/Paul Yarter, Constable A true record,
Attest: s/Mary Courtney Kennedy, Town Clerk

	Adopted 2015	Proposed 2016	
EXECUTIVE			
Selectmen	\$6,950	\$5,530	
Town Manager	\$234,796	\$253,281	
Town Counsel	\$35,000	\$35,000	
Emergency Management	\$25	\$25	
	<u>\$276,771</u>	<u>\$293,836</u>	6.2%
ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE			
Insurance	\$112,188	\$115,150	
Finance Committee	\$797	\$800	
Town Accountant	\$197,279	\$198,730	
Assessors	\$148,690	\$153,689	
Finance Director/Treasurer-Collector	\$183,415	\$187,771	
Data Processing	\$66,727	\$69,919	
Town Clerk	\$83,348	\$90,561	
Registrars of Voters	\$20,201	\$19,456	
Employee Benefits	<u>\$1,065,931</u>	<u>\$1,092,566</u>	
	<u>\$1,878,576</u>	<u>\$1,928,642</u>	2.7%
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT			
Building Inspector	\$330,177	\$342,062	
Health Inspector	\$104,819	\$108,723	
Conservation Commission	\$11,064	\$11,757	
Agricultural Commission	\$1,000	\$1,000	
Planning Board	\$2,525	\$2,525	
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$3,990	\$3,900	
Historical Commission	\$500	\$500	
Sealer of Weights	\$6,769	\$6,769	
Dog Officer	<u>\$8,005</u>	<u>\$8,108</u>	
	<u>\$468,849</u>	<u>\$485,344</u>	3.5%
PUBLIC SAFETY			
Police Department	\$1,158,873	\$1,193,442	
Dispatch Services	\$180,732	\$181,724	
Forest Warden	<u>\$6,413</u>	<u>\$6,348</u>	
	<u>\$1,346,018</u>	<u>\$1,381,514</u>	2.6%
PUBLIC WORKS			
DPW Director	\$159,706	\$177,433	
Highway Department	\$1,212,252	\$1,214,579	
Snow and Ice	\$166,863	\$166,863	
Parks and Cemetery	\$253,870	\$258,918	
Facilities Management	\$191,759	\$197,862	
Burbank Chapel	\$5,290	\$5,240	
Recreation	\$11,516	\$11,722	
Forestry Department	<u>\$43,978</u>	<u>\$44,858</u>	
	<u>\$2,045,235</u>	<u>\$2,077,474</u>	1.6%
HUMAN SERVICES			
Council on Aging	\$255,352	\$261,378	
Veterans' Services	\$93,192	\$92,924	
Library	\$522,885	\$538,031	
Veterans' Graves & Holidays	<u>\$3,090</u>	<u>\$3,090</u>	
	<u>\$874,518</u>	<u>\$895,422</u>	2.4%
	<u>\$6,889,967</u>	<u>\$7,062,232</u>	2.50%

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION MAY 12, 2015

SELECTMEN	PREC. 1	PREC. 2	PREC. 3	TOTAL
BLANKS	5	5	3	13
MARTINO C DONATI	51	20	66	137
JACK B NOGUEIRA	32	9	32	73
ANNE C O'CONNOR	186	73	181	440
ALISON ROE O'GRADY	57	16	68	141
WRITE INS	0	1	0	1
TOTAL	331	124	350	805

WMST. ELEM SCHL COMMT	PREC. 1	PREC. 2	PREC. 3	TOTAL
BLANKS	193	65	177	435
JOSEPH M JOHNSON	131	56	169	356
CATHERINE I KEATING	201	75	196	472
THOMAS J LOUGHMAN	135	48	158	341
WRITE INS	2	4	0	6
TOTAL	662	248	700	1610

LIBRARY TRUSTEE (3yr)	PREC. 1	PREC. 2	PREC. 3	TOTAL
BLANKS	51	16	46	113
MICHAEL F SUSSMAN	280	108	304	692
WRITE INS	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	331	124	350	805

LIBRARY TRUSTEE (2 yr)	PREC. 1	PREC. 2	PREC. 3	TOTAL
BLANKS	69	22	70	161
KAREN KOWITZ	262	101	280	643
WRITE INS	0	1	0	1
TOTAL	331	124	350	805

PLANNING BOARD	PREC. 1	PREC. 2	PREC. 3	TOTAL
BLANKS	55	16	65	136
ANN K McCALLUM	275	106	282	663
WRITE INS	1	2	3	6
TOTAL	331	124	350	805

HOUSING AUTHORITY	PREC. 1	PREC. 2	PREC. 3	TOTAL
BLANKS	72	27	76	175
JUDITH M BOMBARDIER	259	95	274	628
WRITE INS	0	2	0	2
TOTAL	331	124	350	805

NOR BERK VOC REG SCHOOL CMTE	PREC. 1	PREC. 2	PREC. 3	TOTAL
BLANKS	54	24	55	133
THOMAS R MAHAR	277	99	295	671
WRITE INS	0	1	0	1
TOTAL	331	124	350	805

**W A R R A N T
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF WILLIAMSTOWN
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Berkshire, ss:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Williamstown or any other such
designated person in the County of Berkshire.

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed
to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Williamstown qualified to vote in
elections and Town affairs to meet at Williamstown Elementary School, 115 Church
Street in said Williamstown.

On TUESDAY, THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2015 AT SEVEN
O'CLOCK P.M. for the following purpose:

MOUNT GREYLOCK REGIONAL AGREEMENT

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to accept the amended Mount Greylock Regional Agreement as proposed by the Mount Greylock Regional School Committee, a copy of which has been filed with the Board of Selectmen and is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, or take any action in relation thereto.

The major proposed change to the Agreement adjusts the apportionment of capital costs in anticipation of future renovation of Mount Greylock Regional High School. Currently, capital costs are shared based on equalized valuation and enrollment at the time of incurring debt. The amended agreement adjusts this to share capital costs by applying a ratio based upon the five year rolling average of equalized valuations and the five year rolling average of each of the member towns' resident pupil enrollment throughout the term of the bond. Additional changes to the agreement update various technical and legal references.

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant, with your doings to the Town Clerk on or before the time set for holding said meeting.

Signed Jane Patton, Chairman
Hugh Daley
Andrew Hogeland
Ronald Turbin
Anne O'Connor

Williamstown Board of Selectmen
Date- October 28, 2015

Proceeding: Moderator Adam Filson called the Special Town Meeting to order at 7:07 PM at the Williamstown Elementary School gymnasium. He read the warrant and the

return of the Constable. Two hundred twenty registered voters checked into the meeting.

Selectmen Chairman, Jane Patton moved, and it was second, the Town vote to accept the amended Mount Greylock Regional Agreement as proposed by the Mount Greylock Regional School Committee, a copy of which has been filed with the Board of Selectmen and is on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

Carrie Green, Chairman of the Mount Greylock Regional School Committee explained the changes addressed in the article. There being no further discussion, the Moderator declared Article 1 carried by unanimous voice vote. There being no further action, a motion was made and seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a unanimous voice vote the Moderator declared the Special Town Meeting adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Berkshire, ss:

I hereby certify that I have posted attested copies of the above Warrant in four public places in the Town of Williamstown and the Post Office, at least fourteen days before said Special Town Meeting.

Signed: Paul Yarter

Date- October 29, 2015

Constable

A true record, attest:
Mary Courtney Kennedy
Town Clerk

Janet Saddler, Treasurer / Finance Director

Treasurer/Collector

June 30, 2015

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TREASURER'S RECEIPTS
For the Year Ending;
JUNE 30, 2015

<u>Department</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<i>Tax and Excise</i>		
Treasurer-Collector	Personal Property	272,071.49
Treasurer-Collector	Real Estate Tax	14,509,724.19
Treasurer-Collector	Motor Vehicle Excise	629,811.12
Treasurer-Collector	Interest on Property Tax	35,176.26
Treasurer-Collector	Interest on MV Excise	2,812.44
Treasurer-Collector	Interest on Tax Liens	3,138.43
Treasurer-Collector	Payments in Lieu of Tax	40,952.52
Treasurer-Collector	Meals Tax	159,291.44
Treasurer-Collector	Hotel and Motel Tax	419,758.40
Treasurer-Collector	Community Preservation-State Match	65,599.00
Treasurer-Collector	Community Preservation Surcharge	212,460.33
Treasurer-Collector	Community Preservation Surcharge Interest	10.48
Total Tax and Excise		16,350,806.10
<i>Utility Charges</i>		
Sewer Department	Sewer Charges	1,238,955.65
Water Department	Water Charges	1,133,188.52
Landfill Department	Landfill Payments	19,253.25
Landfill Department	Landfill Stickers	68,454.00
Landfill Department	Landfill Bags	60,905.00
Total Utility Charges		2,520,756.42
<i>Other Charges for Services</i>		
Cemetery	Cemetery Interments	19,200.00
Police	Off-Duty Fees	201,781.79
School	Cafeteria Receipts	65,938.49
Total Charges for Services		286,920.28
<i>Fees</i>		
Assessors	Fees	107.00
Community Development	Fees	738.00

Cemetery Department	Perpetual Care	13,815.00
Conservation Commission	Fees	5,275.17
Council on Aging	Fees	3,492.16
Dept of Public Works	Fees	72.00
Health Department	Fees	8,517.00
Highway	Fees	2,090.00
Historical Commission	Fees	480.00
Library	Fees	4,030.55
Planning Board	Fees	2,852.50
Zoning Board	Fees	3,370.00
Police Department	Fees	13,153.20
Police Department	Dispatch Services	45,183.00
Sealer of Weights	Fees	85.60
School	Rental - Custodians	7,030.00
School	Tuition	114,071.71
Spruces Revolver	Fees	85,637.00
Town Clerk	Fees	6,854.98
Town Manager	Fees	1,633.00
Treasurer - Collector	Fees	43,622.27
Landfill Department	Fees	5,993.79
School	Transportation	5,845.00
Sewer Department	Fees	2,241.35
Water Department	Fees	18,776.85
Total Fees		394,967.13
<i>Licenses and Permits</i>		
Community Development	Licenses and Permits	311,582.69
Gas Inspector	Licenses and Permits	8,174.00
Health Department	Licenses and Permits	19,184.00
Highway	Licenses and Permits	5,952.00
Plumbing Inspector	Licenses and Permits	19,330.00
Police Department	Licenses and Permits	3,143.75
Selectmen	Licenses and Permits-Liquor Licenses	30,743.24
Selectmen	Licenses and Permits	3,290.00
Sign Commission	Licenses and Permits	3,287.75
Town Clerk	Licenses and Permits	4,793.00
Wiring Inspector	Licenses and Permits	95,753.05
Total Licenses and Permits		505,233.48
<i>State Government - State Aid</i>		

Treasurer-Collector	Veterans Services	58,901.00
Treasurer-Collector	Additional Assistance	22,157.00
Treasurer-Collector	Tropical Storm Irene	4,917.26
Treasurer-Collector	Abatement Reimbursement	16,411.00
Treasurer-Collector	State Owned Land	175,502.00
Treasurer-Collector	Chapter 70	928,776.00
Treasurer-Collector	Lottery	849,565.00
Treasurer-Collector	Federal Lunch Reimbursement	39,117.30
Treasurer-Collector	State Lunch Reimbursement	2,107.26
Treasurer-Collector	School Choice	237,644.00
Treasurer-Collector	Circuit Breaker	86,709.00
Treasurer-Collector	Urban Development Excise	26,643.00
Treasurer-Collector	Municipal Medicaid	69,407.12
Treasurer-Collector	Charter School	43,241.00
Total State Aid		2,561,097.94
<i>State Government - Grants</i>		
Treasurer-Collector	WESE Grant	29,663.43
Treasurer-Collector	Tech Assistance	9,570.00
Treasurer-Collector	Rapid Road Recovery	45,749.00
Treasurer-Collector	Highland Woods	236,178.41
Treasurer-Collector	Forest Warden	1,060.00
Treasurer-Collector	Green Communities	35,500.00
Treasurer-Collector	COA Aging Mastery Grant	1,255.93
Treasurer-Collector	DOE - Title I	46,787.00
Treasurer-Collector	DOE - Title II Math Science	13,500.00
Treasurer-Collector	DOE - P.L. 94-142	121,297.00
Treasurer-Collector	DOE - Early Childhood Wee Grant	4,977.60
Treasurer-Collector	DOE - Quality Kindergarten Grant	23,610.00
Treasurer-Collector	E-911	32,539.45
Treasurer-Collector	Police-Drug Task Force	7,143.99
Treasurer-Collector	Polling Re-imburement	1,301.00
Treasurer-Collector	Library Title LIG/MEG Grant	10,487.32
Treasurer-Collector	Emergency Management Grant	1,975.00
Treasurer-Collector	Council on Aging - Formula Grant	16,784.00
Treasurer-Collector	Spruces Hazard Mitigation Grant	690,584.35
Treasurer-Collector	Race To The Top	5,483.00
Total State Grants		1,335,446.48
<i>Fines and Forfeits</i>		

<i>Commonwealth</i>		
Police Department	Court Fines	14,162.50
Total Fines and Forfeits	Parking Tickets	33,875.00
		48,037.50
<i>Sale of Assets</i>		
Cemetery		
DPW	Sale of Lots	1,400.00
Total Sale of Assets	Sale of Fixed Assets	9,535.00
		10,935.00
<i>Interest Income</i>		
Treasurer-Collector		
Treasurer-Collector	Investment Interest	55,641.44
Total Interest Income	Trust Interest	7,916.27
		63,557.71
<i>Gifts and Contributions</i>		
Police Department	Contribution - General	5,450.00
School	Principal	924.73
School	Sherman Burbank Chapel	100.00
School	Health Materials	993.64
School	School PTO Educational Materials	5,964.00
School	Library Books	2,250.00
School	5th and 6th Grade Fund	27,210.02
School	Teacher Salary	5,979.20
School	Outdoor Classroom	691.40
School	Music	4,730.75
Council on Aging	Donations & Fundraisers	4,016.02
Library	Operations Gifts	38,912.00
Town/School	Health Coordinator	2,000.00
Town	Library Books	1,567.31
Town/School	K-9	50.00
Total Gifts and Contributions		100,839.07
<i>Payroll and Insurance</i>		
Payroll Deductions		
Payroll Deductions	Federal Withholding	833,883.32
Payroll Deductions	Medicare Withholding	227,005.46
Payroll Deductions	State Withholding	370,024.12
Payroll Deductions	Retirement Withholding	738,822.38
Payroll Deductions	Health Insurance	1,714,024.22

Payroll Deductions	Life Insurance	38,805.48
Payroll Deductions	Dental Insurance	92,643.09
Payroll Deductions	Other Withholdings	292,771.74
Total Payroll and Insurance		4,307,979.81
<i>Fund Transfers</i>		
Transfers between Funds		
Total Fund Transfers		199,800.44
		199,800.44
<i>Miscellaneous</i>		
Miscellaneous	OPEB Fund	75,000.00
Miscellaneous	Sherman Burbank Trust Distribution	15,955.88
Miscellaneous	Williamstown Scholarship Fund	3,351.33
Miscellaneous	Cemetery Perpetual Care Distribution	3,000.00
Miscellaneous	Affordable Housing Trust Distribution	75,000.00
Miscellaneous	Miscellaneous Trust Contributions	21,214.00
Miscellaneous	CPA Loan Proceeds (Cable Mills)	1,102,961.00
Miscellaneous	Bond Premium Proceeds	64,043.08
Miscellaneous	Reimbursement for damages	165.00
Total Miscellaneous		1,360,690.29

VETERANS SERVICES

Stephen Roy, Veteran's Agent

The Williamstown Office of Veteran Services is directly responsible for providing veterans' benefits under Chapter 115 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the US Department of Veteran Affairs at the Federal level. These important programs provide a great variety of resources and financial assistance to eligible veterans and their dependents. The veterans of our community who are disabled, homeless, unemployed or suffering from the trauma of war with nowhere else to turn can find relief in the services provided by the Office of Veteran Services.

Accurate bookkeeping and 100% approval of all submitted claims to the Department of Veteran Services (DVS) in Boston continues to be a priority in this time of financial insecurity all of our communities are face. The Office of Veteran Services can assure full reimbursement to the Town of Williamstown under the guidelines of 108 CMR § 13.02 (3). Consequently, the need for meticulous recordkeeping and guaranteed reimbursement by the Commonwealth to the Town is imperative. In 2015, Veterans' Agent Stephen Roy processed \$60,582.61 in benefit claims without a single penny rejected by the Commonwealth - funding which would otherwise be a liability to the community. Many widows and veterans have been saved from homelessness, hunger and despair by these funds.

With the drawdown in America's foreign engagements, many service members are coming home from Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere. While this is a wonderful, the unfortunate truth of the matter is America continues to recover from the recession and meaningful employment opportunities are extremely scarce. Worse, many soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines come home greatly challenged due to the horrific effect of war on the human psyche. The Office of Veteran Services assists a great number of veterans with filing claims through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This intimidating (and time consuming) process is extremely difficult to accomplish successfully; without assistance nearly all claims would otherwise be denied by the VA. We assist veterans in acquiring the correct documentation, proper completion and submission to the appropriate entity. Other services provided include, but are not limited to, educational/employment assistance, dependency and indemnity compensation, alcohol/drug rehabilitation, housing assistance, referrals, and close contact with funeral homes and cemeteries to ensure all veterans' graves are properly honored. The Veterans' Office also serves as a depository for hundreds of thousands of documents and important records of historic value to the sons and daughters of Williamstown in secure archives.

VSO Roy maintains a very dynamic and flexible schedule serving the veterans of not only the Town of Williamstown but the City of North Adams, Adams, Williamstown, Clarksburg, Florida and Savoy. The Veterans' Agent often makes special appointments and house calls to the sick, bedridden or elderly who cannot easily make it to the Municipal Building to process documentation. The Williamstown Office of Veteran Services is staffed Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 1:00 – 3:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Roy
Veteran Service Officer

WATER AND SEWER

Edward Rondeau, Superintendent

The year started out with the Department focused on finishing the installation of the Mill Street water main, which began in the fall of 2014. During April and May, the Department finished the installation of the new 8" ductile iron main, two new fire hydrants and the upgrade of seven water services from ¾" to 1" to provide for better volume for the multifamily houses located there.

The spring was particularly challenging to the Department due to the extremely cold temperatures. The weather caused frozen water services the Department hasn't seen in prior years. In total we thawed and restored service to 18 different locations for water and two for sewer services.

We spent a great deal of the early summer months retiring water and sewer services at the Spruces Mobile home park as trailers were removed. We also installed three new water service taps for the Cable Mills project and one new water and sewer service for the Highland Woods project. The College also required our presence for a fair bit of time with the new fire service lines at Weston Hall, the new dormitory located on Stetson Court and the newly relocated Miller house which was moved to South Street from Walden St.

The Department repaired seven water leaks throughout the year on both service lines and mains. The Department issued permits for six new water services and ten replacements of existing lines.

In late summer, the Department shifted focus to the replacement of two sanitary sewer mains that traverse the Spruces property. The mains serviced not only the park but also the Hamel Ave and East Main Street area, and the second main services all of the area east of Stratton Rd to Luce Road including all of the Adams Road neighborhoods. We installed 1180' of new 8" sdr 35 p.v.c. pipe and four new water-tight manhole structures. The second main we installed was 950' of new sdr 35 p.v.c. pipe and three new water-tight structures. The mains were replaced for several reasons, first of which was the poor condition of the mains due to many taps improperly installed over the years by the mobile home park which let in large amounts of extraneous flow from ground water. Secondly was that the pipes installed originally were never meant to nor did they keep ground water out which, ends up being treated at the H.Q.W.D. wastewater plant and costing the ratepayers more money to treat something that should not have been treated! If you have any problems or questions with respect to Water or Sewer issues we would be glad to assist you in solving them. We can be reached at 458-3383 M-F 7:00 am to 3:30 p.m. Outside of those hours we can be contacted through the Williamstown Police Dept.

Respectfully Submitted by
Edward J. Rondeau
Water & Sewer Superintendent

WILLIAMSTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

WILLIAMSTOWN-LANESBOROUGH SCHOOL UNION 71

Combined Student Enrollment: 644 Faculty/Staff: 130.5*

WILLIAMSTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT 2015 (FY15)

Superintendent—Rose P. Ellis, Ed.D. (Retired December 31, 2015)

Interim Superintendent - Gordon L. Noseworthy, Ed.D.

Principal—Joelle Brookner

School Committee - Valerie Hall, Chair, Christopher Jones, Vice-Chair, John Skavlem, Dan Caplinger, Richard Reynolds

Guiding beliefs identify the core values of the Williamstown Elementary School.

We believe...

- Every child has the right and potential to learn;
- In inspiring and nurturing children to care about and contribute to their world;
- All children deserve to have high expectations set for them and the support to achieve them;
- In commitment to professional growth for our faculty and staff;
- Parents and community play a critical role in education;
- All members of our school community need to feel safe;
- It is important to have built-in systems that support, implement and evaluate innovations;
- In respecting and fostering unique and diverse learning and teaching styles;
- In a curriculum that is coordinated and consistent, flexible and challenging to meet the needs of every learner;
- Mutual respect, honesty and responsibility are vital to a healthy learning environment;
- It is the responsibility of the educational community to anticipate the changing needs in society and to evaluate and adopt the best educational practices.

WILLIAMSTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT and STAFFING 2014-2015

Student Enrollment & Student to Teacher Ratios

YEAR	TOTALS	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ratio 14-15	460	1:10 31	1:17 66	1:18 54	1:19 58	1:17 69	1:20 60	1:19 56	1:22 66
Ratio 13-14	439	1:12 36	1:17 50	1:17 50	1:17 67	1:19 58	1:17 52	1:22 65	1:20 61
Ratio 12-13	438	1:11 34	1:18 54	1:16 63	1:18 55	1:16 48	1:21 64	1:20 60	1:20 60
Ratio 11-12	416	1:15 29	1:16 65	1:16 48	1:15 46	1:19 56	1:19 57	1:20 59	1:19 56
Ratio 10-11	407	1:11 33	1:16 47	1:16 48	1:15 58	1:18 54	1:21 62	1:18 55	1:17 50
Ratio 09-10	426	1:11 35	1:15 45	1:19 56	1:19 56	1:20 60	1:19 58	1:16 49	1:22 68

**Enrollment based upon Oct 1, 2014 report to Department of Education*

EDUCATIONAL AND SUPPORT STAFFING (Full-Time Equivalents)

Grade-Level Teachers PK-6	25
Specialists (Music, Art, Library, PE, Nurse, Reading, and Technology)	9.6
Special Education Teachers And Professional Support Staff	7.2
Paraprofessionals	26.6
Custodians/Cafeteria	7.1
TOTAL	75.5

WILLIAMSTOWN-LANESBOROUGH SCHOOL UNION 71 (SU71)

Representing Lanesborough Elementary and Williamstown Elementary Schools, SU71 enrollment is a combined total of 678 students (PK-6). Williamstown's FY15 contribution rate for shared services employees was 35%, or .35 of 1.0 Full-Time Equivalency (FTE).

Williamstown Elementary portion of administrative shared services staff = 3.7 FTE.

WILLIAMSTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS 2014-2015

We are excited to unveil our new & improved school website

Early in the year, the school was notified by our website provider that they would no longer be hosting school websites. A Tri-District technology committee searched for a

new vendor and chose FinalSite. The district office and each of the three school's webmasters worked to create a beautiful Tri-District portal which serves as one-stop-shopping for information regarding the District Office and our three schools. The new website offers many new features to help us share information with the community. We hope you will take some time to explore at www.wlschools.org.

Honoring Williamstown's Veterans

Monday, November 10, 2014, marked an evening of firsts: the first concert of the year, the first time the Class of 2015 performed as a chorus, and our first annual Veteran's Day Concert. The 6th grade band and chorus provided a packed audience of family and special armed services guests with an evening of meaningful and touching tributes in honor of the men and women of Williamstown who have served our country. Thank you to Betsy Reali, Margot Sanger, Sue Kirby, and Sue Lynch for all their work in creating a truly lovely event.

Great Kindness Challenge

During the week of January 26, 2015, WES joined over a thousand schools worldwide by participating in the Great Kindness Challenge. It was wonderful to call attention to the love and kindness that we give and receive every day at our school. Each day, members of the faculty or 6th Grade Spirit Committee shared kindness quotes over the PA, and we showed our good spirit in different ways each day with our apparel. Classrooms kept tallies of their acts of kindness throughout the week which they shared at a culminating assembly. And the total was...5,480 acts of kindness during the week at Williamstown Elementary!

WILLIAMSTOWN HOUSING AUTHORITY

35 Adams Road

Williamstown, Massachusetts 01267

Tel: 413 458-8282 Fax: 413 458-9698

The Williamstown Housing Authority administers a total of 150 units of subsidized housing, both rental assistance and conventional units. This includes: 30 elderly apartments, Meadowvale, on Adams Road, 97 units of federally subsidized Section 8 rental assistance, 8 units of family housing at the corner of Cole Avenue and Stetson Road, 8 units for people with special needs on Adams Road, and 7 state funded rental vouchers. Our office is located at Meadowvale, 35 Adams Road.

We are presently accepting applications for elderly and family housing. However, our Section 8 Federally funded rental assistance program waiting list is closed at the present time, due to the number of applicants.

The members of the Williamstown Housing Authority are: Mark Reinhardt, Peter Mehlin - Vice Chairman, Judy Bombardier and David Mangun.

Williamstown Municipal Scholarship Fund

Cheryl Yarter. Chair

The Williamstown Municipal Scholarship Committee oversees the granting of scholarships to residents of Williamstown who will be attending accredited colleges or vocational/technical schools. The scholarships are intended to support residents' educational goals, enhance their skills, or prepare them to re-enter the workforce.

The residents of Williamstown, through tax-deductible donations, fund these scholarships, which are issued by the town treasurer to the attending college in advance of the fall semester. Donations can be submitted to the town treasurer's office, or made alongside property tax payments.

This year, the committee was pleased to award a scholarship towards a local resident's continuing education, and we look forward to supporting more Williamstown students in the future.

Scholarship applications are available on the town's website, or from the town treasurer, by November 1st each year. Scholarship awards are decided in mid-January.

The Municipal Scholarship Committee members are: Peter Beck, Douglas Dias, Jeanne DiLisio, Kris Kirby, and Cheryl Yarter.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Andrew Hoar, Chairman

The Zoning Board of Appeals is comprised of 5 members and 3 alternate members. Serving on the Board in 2015 were Andrew Hoar; Chairman, John Holden, David Levine, Ryan Neathawk, and Leigh Short. Alternate Members are Keith Davis, Jack Noguiera, and Larry Wright.

The Board meets the third Thursday of every month to hear and decide petitions arising from the application of the Williamstown's Zoning Bylaws. These petitions fall into four categories:

- **Variances** seek relief from the requirements of the Bylaws due to particular circumstances that are unique to a property.
- **Special Permits** seek permission for uses or changes allowed under the Bylaws under certain conditions. These permits allow the Board to permit important projects while protecting neighborhoods from adverse impacts.
- **Administrative Appeals** seek relief from a decision made by the Zoning Enforcement Officer.
- **Comprehensive Permits** seek permission to circumvent certain local zoning laws to construct affordable housing under the authority of Massachusetts General Law Ch. 40B.

Any application for any of these four types of permits requires the Board to place advertisements in the local newspaper, *The Berkshire Eagle*, and notify all abutters of the subject property of the time and date of the public hearing on an application by mail. This process ensures that all neighbors of a proposed project have a chance to voice any concerns regarding a proposal. If you ever receive a post card notifying you of a permit request in your neighborhood don't hesitate to contact Town Hall for additional information.

The Zoning Board received 17 requests for hearings in 2015, a slight decrease from the previous year. There were 17 requests for Special Permits with all approved.

Some noteworthy permits issued included; further revisions to the Sawyer Library project, a new medical office at 650 Main St, revisions to the Cable Mills project, and a reopening of the Store at Five Corners. We're looking forward to more exciting proposals from the community in 2016.

Appendices

➤ **WILLIAMSTOWN HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

○ **PAGE 158**

➤ **WILLIAMSTOWN YOUTH CENTER**

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➤ **WILIAMSTOWN FIRE DISTRICT**

○ **PAGE 165**

WILLIAMSTOWN HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Annual Report 2015

Highlights of the Year

2015 was a year of new beginnings and broader community outreach for the Williamstown Historical Museum. At the May 19th Annual Town Meeting, a vote by town residents authorized the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease agreement for the former South Center School at 32 New Ashford Road for the purpose of storing, displaying and preserving Town historic artifacts and documents for up to fifty years. This was a wonderful solution to our need to find a new location for our collection and exhibits. Our response to the town's request for proposals for the South Center School was accepted, and as of December 31, 2015, the WHM is still negotiating a lease with the town. We look forward to continuing our role as the repository for town artifacts in a new location in 2016. Another highlight this year was the conservation of Williamstown's Proprietor's Book, supported by a grant in the amount of \$11,219 of CPA funds, voted on by the town at the June town meeting. With this funding we had the Williamstown's Proprietors book conserved at the Williamstown Art Conservation Center. After it was conserved, high quality copies of the book (in both digital and hard copy format) were prepared by Chicago Albumen Works. These copies were produced to ensure that near identical facsimiles of book are accessible for research while the original 260 year old document remains under safe cover. The digital copy of the Proprietors Book is available for viewing at the WHM and the hard copy facsimile is available at the Municipal Building. We invite community members to come and take a peek!

We take our job as custodians of the town's artifacts seriously and we work with specialists in the field of preservation so that we can keep our valuable material history safe. We completed our curatorial research project dedicated to collections care with the assistance of Laura Staneff who is helped us put together a Preservation Needs Assessment, artifact handling guidelines and plans for our move to South Center School. Laura also got us started on a collections rehousing project to that will enable us to uphold best practices possible for an organization of our size.

Starting in the fall of 2015, six Williams College FWS students worked at the WHM to help us in a number of areas. All of the students provided a valuable service by assisting with our digital cataloging project, logging in new donations and carefully storing them in our collections storage area. As the year progressed, two of our students pursued research projects, the results of which will be presented in one of our newsletters.

Our online catalog of images from our collection continues to be a popular resource for researchers and people interested in our town's visual and cultural history. By visiting this link you too can research the past: <http://williamstown.pastperfect-online.com>

Exhibits

Our orientation exhibit *From Wilderness to Williamstown*, detailing Williamstown's rich history, continues to draw positive feedback from visitors. People are always

impressed by the extensive information on the town's development through our history. Visitors comment on the charming vignettes and photos in the exhibit. It often takes a few visits for everything to sink in!

Our rotating exhibits this year included "100 Years in White," curated by Moira Jones. This exhibit looked at the First Congregational Church's recladding and interior renovation from a neo-Romanesque brick structure from the 1860s to a white, single steepled classical New England church. The brick from the original structure still lies beneath the white siding! The CPC funded exhibit of conserved objects, titled "Before and After: The Story of a Small Town's Artifacts and Their Conservation" opened in October and couldn't have been completed without the help of Pine Cobble's current eighth graders. Students wrote descriptive narratives about the objects and helped us tell the artifacts' stories. Their thoughtful work will be included in a booklet about the exhibit that will be provided for free to community members. This booklet will be produced through support by a grant from the Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and by a grant from the Fund for Williamstown, a fund of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. Please come by and pick up your copy!

Outreach and Public Programs

In addition to exhibits, public programs are another way we fulfill our mission of making town history accessible to the public. In 2015, our programs included a screening of "Cherry Cottage" with a Q&A with film makers Dave Simonds and Hans Morris, "A Berkshire Home: the History of the Hyde Family Home" by John Hyde, "Shape Notes: Talk and Songs" by Singing School, "The History of Weston Field" by Jim Kolesar, "1765" by Pat Leach, "The History of the Treadway Family and the Williams Inn" by Carl Faulkner, "The West Hoosuck Blockhouse: 1756 – 1761" by Dustin Griffin, "Conservation in Williamstown, its Historic Roots" by Phil McKnight, "The Renovation of the Smedley House" by Bruce MacDonald, "Ghost Stories of Williamstown" by Cynthia Payne, and "First Church and Williamstown, 250 Years Together" by Moira Jones. We averaged 40 attendees for our 2015 lecture series. We are fortunate for our partnership with WilliNet. We film our monthly programs and they appear regularly on WilliNet. Our programs are also available online on our website and at the WilliNet website.

Our Historic Homes Tour in May focused on the South Street/Gale/Ide/Water Street loop with an extra house for good measure. The homes featured on the tour included the 1753 House at the rotary, the Hopkins/Pardoe house on South Street, Buxton School on South Street, the Cluett House at Pine Cobble on Gale Road, the Swift/Quinn-Sun house on Water Street, the Ide/Phillips House on Ide Road and the Smedley/Broadwell house on Stratton Road.

Education

Visits by the Williamstown Elementary School third grade classes were enhanced again this year by education coordinator, Dick Steege's, pre-trip activities in the classroom. Dick continues to work as a liaison between the museum and teachers in an attempt to

increase the use of material from our collection in the classroom. Primary Resource Packets are available for teachers interested in delving into local history; a valuable jumping off point for investigating primary documents and how they can inform us about history. Additionally, visits from Pine Cobble School in the spring and from Buxton School this fall provided opportunities for local students to access primary resources and allowed them to serve as interpreters of our town's history.

Research Assistance

Our resources are utilized not only for education and public programs, but also in replies to the many inquiries for genealogical assistance, house history research, student research, professional research, information for our own exhibits and programs, as well as for programs and visits arranged by request for other community groups. Our director, Sarah, and our primary genealogy researchers, David Primmer and Paul Guillotte, responded to an average of one request a week in 2015. The requests ranged from Beverly family information to an inquiry about a Freemason Sword. Some of the self-guided research this year included investigations of the town/gown relationship and the impact of the Hoosac Tunnel on the town and college both inspired by Williams students. We are grateful to the Williams Archives for encouraging students to make queries at the WHM and delve into our resources.

Nuts and Bolts

Maintaining our collection of historical resources is a time-consuming operation. In 2015 we received 122 gifts of artifacts from 34 donors, 17 of them from first-time donors. Many of the gifts consisted of multiple items that required sorting, evaluating, cataloguing, and processing. Three large collections of artifacts related to Williamstown's history received this year kept us busy cataloging and were helpful additions to the collection! Our part-time staff member works approximately 22 hours a week. In 2015, we were fortunate to have six Williams College FWS students working for us. These bright and helpful students contributed about 20 hours per week during the semester. Our ongoing work and many special projects were possible only with nearly 1,000 additional hours generously donated by our faithful volunteers. Volunteer docents fill 2 hour slots most mornings and afternoons at the museum, David Primmer and Paul Guillotte spend between 1-4 hours researching each genealogical query that we receive, and our board members spent approximately 200 hours organizing programs, events and fundraisers.

A Broad Constituency

While we would expect our resources to serve primarily a local constituency, many people from elsewhere who have connections to Williamstown visit, as increasingly do tourists to the area. The majority of visitors are from the geographic area between Williamstown, Pittsfield, Adams, and Bennington, but others come from eastern Massachusetts and neighboring New York and Connecticut, and still others from further afield. In 2015, our small museum's guestbook contained signatures from 21 states and from other countries including England, Switzerland, Australia and the Czech Republic!

We Must Be Doing Something Right

The kind words of our visitors show us that our work is important and should continue!

“Fascinating exhibits, well laid out – really enjoyed it.”

“Very nice exhibit of Williamstown’s growth.”

“The children’s room was fun.”

“Wonderful to learn about our hometown.”

“We come here weekly with our grandson who lives nearby. Love it!”

“A lot in a small package.”

WILLIAMSTOWN YOUTH CENTER

David Rempell, Executive Director

Michael Williams, Assistant Director

The Williamstown Youth Center celebrated the three-year anniversary of the opening of our new facility this past November. As anticipated, the Youth Center has been able to provide enhanced programming to the children of our community because of our “New” Youth Center facility. Needless to say, we are greatly appreciative of the support provided by the community that made this project possible. The children and staff love the new building.

It is important for the community to be aware of the mission and vision of the Williamstown Youth Center which were recently updated:

Mission: The Williamstown Youth Center’s mission is to nurture the physical, emotional, and intellectual health and development of the young people in our community.

Vision: The Williamstown Youth Center will serve children, adolescents and their families by providing quality educational, athletic, recreational and artistic programs in a manner that maximizes access and minimizes barriers to participation. Our programs will foster healthy growth, development and maturation in a safe, well-supervised and challenging environment. Additionally, the Youth Center facility will be available for use by families and organizations which have missions and methods complementary to our own. The facilities as well as the financial, technologic and human resources of the WYC will be maintained and developed

Our signature program, the After-School Program, has seen a significant increase in participation since we moved into our new building. The After-School Program operates every school day until 5:30 p.m. With our increased enrollment, children are now grouped by age and sign up for a variety of activities during different segments of the afternoon. Each group has a “group leader”, a staff person who monitors the schedule for each child in his/her group. Daily meetings allow us to discuss issues as a community and build a positive culture, while we enjoy healthy snacks. There are many options available for children. These include homework assistance in our learning center, which also includes a comfortable library for reading; strategic board games; game room with ping pong, pool, foosball, etc.; art room, with a variety of activities offered on a daily basis; movement room where children get to experience different types of dance, yoga, etc., and a media center for technology activities. In addition, we have dedicated space for our older participants. The new gym provides enough space for gross-motor activities during the After-School Program. Clearly, the After-School Program is a popular part of many children’s lives.

The Youth Center continues to offer full-day programs during school vacation weeks and during the summer. Our eight week summer camp includes many trips to local cultural and recreational venues. In addition, our new facility allows other community organizations to partner with us as we expand our summer options.

During the school year the Youth Center facilitates programs in many sports. Many members of our community (parents, college and high school students, and college coaches) volunteer their time to provide instruction. Offerings include instruction in swimming, skating, hockey, basketball, track and field, soccer, etc. The Youth Center’s Sports Philosophy states that the

most important objectives for our young athletes are to have fun, improve playing skills, be a responsible team member, and learn to love to play.

The annual Snowfest celebration was held on Sunday, February 7th. We are grateful to Williams College for the use of its skating rink and field house and the Williams Outing Club for all of its help in making the climbing wall available during the day. In addition, many athletes at Williams and students from Mt. Greylock Regional High School provided assistance. As always, Snowfest provided a vast assortment of activities for children and families. Proceeds from the celebration support the operating budget of the Youth Center and allow us to continue to provide scholarship assistance so that all children can participate in Youth Center activities. To enhance our net income from Snowfest, a number of local organizations helped sponsor the event this year. Our major sponsors included: Adams Community Bank; Cozy Corner Restaurant; Donovan & O'Connor, LLP; Gajda, Arnold & McConnell; Goodwill Industries of the Berkshires and Southern Vermont; Greylock Bowl & Golf/Mingo's Sports Bar and Grill; Greylock Federal Credit Union; GVH Studio, Inc.-Graphic Solutions; Hops & Vines & NoCo Pastaria; Ira Lapidus, D.M.D.; Main Street Hospitality Group; Pera Bistro; Print Shop Williamstown; Sand Springs Recreational Center; Spring Street Market & Café; Vermont Voltage Sports Club; VoIP Logic; The Williams Shop, and Williamstown Physical Therapy. Other sponsors included: Berkshire Fitness Company; Bonnie Lea Farm; Broadwell Carpentry, Inc.; Burnham/Gold Real Estate; Countryside Landscape and Design, Inc.; MCLA Cultural Resource Center; Parese, Sabin, Smith & Gold, LLP; Westall Architects; Rent-A-Center North Adams; Where'd You Get That?, and Wild Oats.

The Board of Directors works extremely hard on overseeing the operations of the Youth Center. The Board has created three new committees to help oversee its work and plan for the future. These committees are: Operational Committee, Financial Committee, and Planning and Organizational Committee. In addition, the Board recently developed a new strategic plan that will help guide the work of the Youth Center for many years. Members of the Board include Dave Armet, President, Duffy Judge, Vice-President, Russ Howard, Treasurer, Madeline Levy, Secretary, Kevin Bopp, Rachel Heisler, Kim Kuster, Sara Loughman, John McAlister, Marc McDermott, Nolan Pratt, Mairead Reynolds and Matt Sheehy.

The Williamstown Youth Center could not possibly do what it does without the support of the community. Our generous donors, volunteer coaches, etc. help make this a better community for children. We receive major support from the Town of Williamstown and Williamstown Community Chest. The Williamstown Elementary School and Williams College provide space for many of our programs. Thank you for your support.

WILLIAMSTOWN FIRE DISTRICT

2015 PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

The Williamstown Fire District is an independent governmental entity created by a 1912 act of the Legislature. The District is governed by a board of three commissioners elected at the District's annual meeting customarily on the fourth Tuesday in May at which time the District also sets its budget and its tax levy for the following year. All registered voters of Williamstown are entitled to attend the annual meeting at the District firehouse on Water Street.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Edward B. Briggs

John J. Notsley

Edward M. McGowan

Corydon L. Thurston, Clerk and Treasurer

Craig A. Pedercini, Chief

34 Water Street

(413) 458-8113

The Fire District would like to recognize Firefighters John “Jack” Hoover and Samuel “Ted” Amdur who graduated from Williams College this past June. Jack and Ted joined the department as freshmen and were quite dedicated. In fact, when it came time to pick their dorm each year they would choose one as close as possible to the fire station. As a result they were usually first to get to the station for calls. Jack and Ted made more than their share of calls as well as attending Monday night training on regular bases. They also participated in other fire department activities over their 4 year career. The Fire District thanks them for their dedication and dependable contribution to the community.

The District would like to welcome new comer Anne Johnston. Anne joined the department in the fall and is a freshman at Williams College. She is from Connecticut where she is a member of the Darien Fire Department in her home town. Anne is Firefighter One certified. We welcome her aboard.

While the Fire District continues to try and acquire property in town to build a new fire station, repair work carried on in the fall to the front of the current fire station. The remaining two columns which have been cracking and separating due to the settling of the southwest corner have been shored up with steel work. In 2012, the southwest corner was completely rebuilt. The front entrance door was also replaced. In the spring of 2016 the entire front black top area will be redone.

Firefighters continue to train regularly every Monday night. The in house training consists of ladders, SCBA's, search and rescue, hose streams, ventilation, hydrants, ropes and vehicle extrication to name a few. Firefighters also keep up on State mandated requirements such as First Responders, CPR/AED and Hazardous Materials. Other types of training which firefighters participated in this year were taught by The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy and were as follows: Firefighter Survival Skills, Pumps and

Hydraulics, Elevator Rescue, Protective Breathing/Search and Rescue, Rope Rescue Operational, Public Safety Responses to Bombing Incidents and Professional Development.

The District responded to 259 calls in the year 2015, some of which are mentioned in greater detail.

The Fire District responded to six structure fires in 2015, two of which were the result of careless disposal of cigarettes/cigars. The first occurred on April 17th at the Parson House at Williams College, when a student went out on the front porch to have an early morning cigarette. Hours later another student at Parson House called security reporting there was smoke in the building. Security called 911. When firefighters arrived they discovered a fire in the wall adjacent to the porch. The cause of the fire was from a smoldering cigarette which was carelessly disposed of. The fire extended under the base trim board and continued to burn up the inside of the wall. Firefighters cut into the wall and made a quick knock down containing the fire to a ten square foot area.

The second was on May 8th in the White Oaks. The Fire District was called out for a report of a porch on fire. When the firefighters arrived they found the fire already extinguished and things were just smoldering. Family members used a garden hose to put the fire out but not before it melted the siding off the house. Firefighters had to remove additional siding to determine whether the fire had extended anywhere else. The cause of the fire was determined to be from a dropped hot cigar ash. A family member had smoked a cigar while sitting on the back steps an hour before the fire was discovered. They did not have an ashtray therefore the hot ashes from the cigar dropped to the ground igniting the mulch which was spread around the steps. The burning mulch eventually caught the steps and siding on fire.

Human error was also the cause of three other structure fires, one being in February when a resident was trying to help his neighbor by supplying them water through a garden hose because their water main had froze. The Good Samaritan found his own outside faucet had frozen and in the process of using a torch to thaw it out, he started a fire in the wall. Firefighters arrived on scene and found the homeowner chopping away at the front of his home with an axe. Firefighters took over and using a chainsaw opened the outside and inside walls to the home getting to the seat of the fire and extinguishing it. Firefighters found an old cotton rag burning which had been stuffed in between the window sill and the framing to block the cold air from getting into the basement.

The second occurred in April on a sunny midafternoon. The Williamstown dispatch received multiple calls reporting a garage on fire out on Hancock Road. Firefighters responded to the far end of Hancock Road near the town line and found a large three stall, two story garage engulfed in flames. There was also a five hundred gallon above ground propane tank that was sitting less than fifteen feet away from the garage which quickly became the major concern for firefighters. The property had a manmade pond on it which also had a dry hydrant connected to it but unfortunately the hydrant was too close to the garage and it could not be used. Mutual aid was called for from the neighboring towns of Hancock, New Ashford, Lanesborough, Clarksburg, and Pownal Vt. fire departments to assist with additional water supply and manpower. All the water resources that arrived on scene via fire engines or tanker were initially applied to the propane tank in order to keep

it cool while the radiant heat from the fire impinged down on it. Eventually firefighters established a water supply from the pond by way of drafting, a process used to suck the water from the pond into a fire engine and then pump it back out onto the fire. The incident went on for over six hours and over forty firefighters fought the blaze. An investigator from the State Fire Marshal's office was called in to assist with identifying the cause of the fire. It was determined that a spark or a burning piece of paint from the use of a torch was the cause. An employee was using the torch to burn old paint off of a metal paint stirrer. The spark or burning piece of paint dropped under the work bench and onto an unidentified combustible item where it smoldered for a while before breaking out into a fire.

The third took place just after midnight in mid-October. Firefighters were called to the Sloane House better known to most as the Presidents House for a small fire that had taken place and was for the most part extinguished. Williams College Security was summoned to an activated fire alarm at the Sloane House where they discovered the incident. Firefighters found a small fire had burned a wooden window sill, a plastic Halloween decoration and an electric light fixture before self-extinguishing. The large plastic Halloween decoration covered the window and there were two 110 volt light with a chandelier type bulb sitting behind it on the window sill. The window had a set of shutters on the inside which were closed up. This in turn tipped the light bulb into the plastic. The light bulb heated up the plastic to the point where it caught fire. One of the plastic light fixtures and the wooden window sill also caught fire but for some unknown reason it went out. This was a recipe for a major disaster but thanks to the fire alarm system which alerted security it was avoided.

The Fire District is always available to assist the Forest Warden's department with additional manpower, trucks and water with their calls when needed. One of the more intense calls the Fire District was called to was a large number of bales of hay that caught fire in an open field on town property that Chenail's Farm uses for haying. The Fire District responded with two engines as well as man power while the Forest Wardens' Department used their brush trucks. The two agencies worked together for 3 ½ hours breaking the dried bales of hay apart and extinguishing the burning bales with water.

The Fire District responded to four trash fires, all were caused by careless disposal of cigarettes. Three of the four were smaller in nature while one was in a commercial Dumpster. An employee of the business was emptying out the stores outside cigarette disposal container into one of their trash bags which they then tossed into the Dumpster, not realizing a cigarette was still smoldering, causing the contents of the Dumpster to catch fire.

Throughout the year the Fire District responded to eight motor vehicle accidents. Seven of the accidents the firefighters assisted the Police and ambulance with patient care and scene safety. On one of the calls the driver of the vehicle made an abrupt turn off of North Street onto Syndicate Road at a high rate of speed and hit a telephone pole, snapping it in half and causing his vehicle to burst into flames. When the Fire Chief arrived on scene he found the engine and front passenger compartments involved in fire and flames were extending up the telephone pole threatening the utility lines. Fortunately, both the driver and his passenger were already out of the vehicle as the doors had popped

open upon impact. When the fire engine arrived a minute later, firefighters were able to quickly knock down the fire preventing any damage to the utility power lines.

There were several reports of natural gas and propane issues throughout the year, two of which were for broken gas lines caused by excavators on construction sites. One of the gas breaks was on a newly installed 2-inch gas main going into the new Cable Mills. The fire department had to evacuate the immediate area including several buildings. In both cases the gas company was able to respond quickly keeping the exposure to a minimum.

In September, firefighters responded to a report of a gas grill on fire behind the Poker Flats dorm at Williams College where college students were having a cookout. Firefighters had to stretch over 300 feet of hose to get to what they found to be a free burning propane tank in the middle of the field. The relief valve on the propane tank let go causing the tank to free burn. The fire department established a safe perimeter and moved all students and spectators away. Instead of extinguishing the propane fire, firefighters applied water to the tank for close to an hour and a half in order to keep it cool while the gas burned out of the tank. The cause of the fire was from grease dripping down onto the propane tank due to the grease cup not being properly installed.

In early June, the Fire District along with local police, ambulance and Mass State Bomb Squad were summoned to respond to a bomb threat at a local business. The building was evacuated while officials determined the plausibility of the threat. Local and state officials performed a thorough investigation which included a search of the building and after three hours came to the conclusion that the threat was a hoax. The police department later traced the phone call and was able to apprehend the two parties involved.

The Fire District continues to respond to residential homes for broken pipes caused by freezing and old age. Another continuing issue is flooding basements. The fire district would like to remind residents to be proactive in maintaining proper home temperatures in order to prevent pipes from freezing. If your home is susceptible to flooding and you have a sump pump, it is important to check it regularly to make sure it is properly maintained and running. If your basement has flooded in the past and you do not have a sump pump, the fire district recommends installing one before flooding conditions occur.

Fire Officers were called out on 27 occasions to investigate reports of Carbon Monoxide detectors going off in homes. Of the 27 calls, only one of them actually had a Carbon Monoxide issue. The 26 other calls were either a low battery or the detector itself had expired. Every Carbon Monoxide detector, like smoke detectors, has warning signs built into them. When a battery is low, the device may chirp once every 30 to 60 seconds. The sensor in a Carbon Monoxide detector is accumulative which means over time, all Carbon Monoxide detectors will expire and need to be replaced. Five or Seven years are the life expectancy of the detectors depending on the brand. It is important that you read and understand the manufactures instructions that come with all detectors as they indicate what each set of warning signs mean.

The Fire District also assisted our neighboring towns and responded six times to Pownal, Vt, once to North Adams and once to Clarksburg. The Clarksburg call lasted four and half days as firefighter battled a 272 acre forest fire in the Clarksburg State Forest. The Fire District was there each day to assist with the event.

Total calls consisted of : 6- Structure Fires, 2- Chimney Fires, 1- Snow Blower Fire, 3- Cooking Fire (contained), 2- Attempt to Burn/Arson, 4- Trash/Dumpster Fire, 7- Brush Fires, 2- Vehicles Fires, 1- Gas Grill Propane Tank Fire, 3- Fires- Electrical/pole/tree/wires down, 2- Burning Odor/Electrical Issues, 9- Mutual Aid Fires/Standby (7 Pownal VT, 1 Clarksburg & 1 North Adams), 1- Bomb Scare, 8- Motor Vehicle Accidents, 7- Natural/Propane Gas Issues, 2- Gasoline/Oil Spills/Odor, 129- Activated Fire Alarms, 3- Activated Sprinkler Alarms, 27- Carbon Monoxide Investigations, 27- Smoke/Good Intent Calls, 4- Rescues, (1 lost hiker, 1 ATV Injury, 1 Child Stuck in Swing & 1 Elevator Rescue), 8- Water Issues/Flooding Basements, 1- Hazardous Chemical Spill.

Chief Pedercini conducted regular comprehensive inspections of all public and private schools, restaurants, motels, inns, theaters, and nursing homes. Inspections of fire alarms and sprinkler systems were performed in all structures built or remodeled during the year. 224 permits were issued for Smoke/CO Detectors, Smoke/CO Installations, LPG, Hotworks, Tank Removals, Oil Burners, Hood Suppression, Floor Refinishing, Fire Protection Systems, Fire Reports, Fireworks and Fuel Tank Storage

Elected officers of the Williamstown Fire District include Corydon L. Thurston as Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer of the District. His term expires in 2016. Elected Prudential Committee members and term expirations are Edward B. Briggs, 2016, John J. Notsley, 2017 and Edward M. McGowan, 2018

Appointed officers are Chief Craig A. Pedercini, First Assistant Engineer Robert E. Briggs, Second Assistant Engineer Michael E. Noyes, Third Assistant Engineer Richard F. Daniels, and Fourth Assistant Engineer Daniel J. Bryant

Williamstown Fire District

FY 2015

Report of the Treasurer*

Balance	July 1, 2014	\$733,200.24
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RECEIPTS:

Town of Williamstown (Taxes collected)	537,124.19	
Williams College	29,560.00	
Inspection Fees	5,850.00	
Interest Income	2,293.46	
Miscellaneous	4.49	
Donations	350.00	\$575,182.14
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		\$1,308,382.38

EXPENSES

Audit	8,000.00
Berkshire County Retirement	29,777.00
Communications	6,036.39
Debt Service	0.00
Dispatch	46,309.63
Education and Training	3,778.00
Insurance	51,786.53
Legal	778.67
Maintenance & Operation	98,228.81
Pay of Firemen	40,084.81
Salaries	89,940.00
Services & Supplies	8,000.00
Street Lighting	91,743.43
Utilities	7,007.14
Water Rents	1,650.00

Total Operation	Article 5	\$483,120.41	
Stabilization	Article 6	\$42,000.00	
Site Cost FY '11	Article 8	\$0.00	
Site Cost FY'13	Article 10	\$0.00	
PPE FY 15	Article 9	\$8,500.50	
Reserve	Article 4	\$3,460.15	
			(\$537,081.06)
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	Balance	June 30, 2015	\$771,301.32

Stabilization Fund	July 1, 2014	\$411,771.62	
Additions		\$42,000.00	
Interest		\$1,259.10	

Fund Balance	June 30 2015		\$455,030.72

Corydon Thurston
Treasurer